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**Sea Oaks auction sees units
sell at bargain prices. P76**

**Mental Health Association
swings away the blues. P13**

**Quail Valley Charities hands
out checks totaling \$250,000. P10**

32963 Insider **Citrus Grillhouse: Open at last**

After months of preparation, the much anticipated Citrus Grillhouse in the new Ocean Park complex finally opened its doors for dinner this week.

"We're ready," said co-owner Allison Varricchio, as she and chef husband Scott prepared for a "soft opening" Wednesday night. .

"We have taken a few reservations," said Varricchio. "For those who come by without reservations, we will try to find them a table on the porch."

Beachside jewelry store robbed

A rare daytime robbery of a beachside jewelry store has nerves on edge along Ocean Drive.

According to police, a slender white male entered the Leigh Jewelers shop at 3401 Ocean Drive shortly after noon on Monday, asked to see some engagement rings, then fled with two rings – one with a 4 carat diamond. No estimate of the value of the stolen jewelry was immediately available.

Mark Leigh, co-owner of the store, said it was the first robbery of Leigh Jewelers in the 17 years they have been in business in Vero. He said the suspect had been in the store about a week earlier with a Hispanic girlfriend looking at engagement rings.

Charities doing more with less in challenging times

BY LISA ZAHNER
STAFF WRITER

It's the peak of the charitable giving season in Vero Beach, and while the 2010 social calendars are jammed-packed with more events, many who worry about the needs of the needy

are feeling the squeeze.

Philanthropists are giving less, and being choosier about where they'll give. Charities' portfolios are only starting to rebound, and governments are giving less in the form of community grants.

Nonprofits are having to compete for fewer available

donors and dollars, making them more creative in their fundraising and more competitive to get the ear of those giving.

"I have heard anecdotal comments from a couple of donors who perceive an increase in the number of solicitations from local nonprofits,"

said Kerry Bartlett, Executive Director of the Indian River Community Foundation. "My response has been that it is probably related to the need for additional charitable dollars in order to address the increased need for services."

Bartlett sits in a unique position. . .
CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



COVER PHOTOS: TOM MCCARTHY JR.

St. Edward's declares 'victory' in drive to get out from under crushing debt

BY MICHELLE GENZ
STAFF WRITER

St. Edward's School, in an intense four-month campaign, appears close to raising enough money in Pirate Fund pledges to enable it to get out from under the crush-

ing debt burden created by expansion a decade ago.

Not only will it open its doors in the fall, something that some feared was earlier in question; it is pressing ahead with a strategic vision that trustees say should guarantee its future. That vision

includes substantial downsizing and the sale of its historic lower-school campus.

"The school's future has been secured," said St. Edward's board member Brian Barefoot. "The support of the community has been phe-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

No joy for some St. Ed's teachers in downsizing

BY MICHELLE GENZ
STAFF WRITER

While the uncertainty of St. Edward's future has at long last been dispelled, there unfortunately was no good news in the school's downsizing for more than a dozen teachers.

Sue Riley, a 48-year-old math teacher for the past ten years, was bluntly told on

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**Six beauties dazzle on
Junior League's
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St. Edward’s
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nomenal.”

While St. Ed’s officials have publicly declined any comment on how much of the \$13 million in pledges that they were seeking has been raised to date in the Pirate Fund campaign, sources say the campaign has obtained commitments “into eight figures” with some key pledges to fill out the final amount expected in the days ahead.

“Some people said, ‘If you get to a certain level, I’m in,’” Barefoot said. “Nobody wants to be first in a pledge drive like this. They want to be last.”

While Head of School Michael Mersky refused to discuss the Pirate

Fund drive, the hoped-for sale of the St. Ed’s lower school campus in Riomar (it has already attracted two serious potential buyers, sources say), or any other details of the complex effort to get St. Ed’s back on its feet, Mersky felt sufficiently confident of the future to finally send out 2010-2011 tuition contracts last week. The bills were accompanied by an ebullient letter declaring victory.

“I am honored and thrilled to announce that St. Edward’s School has taken the proactive steps necessary to ensure the financial stability and future viability of our school,” he said in a letter to parents. “This seminal moment in the history of our School now allows us to ring our victory bell

as a clarion for others to hear that St. Edward’s School will be here as a presence in this community, educating children for generations to come.”

But while St. Ed’s is looking to the future, not all of the current teachers or staff will be part of it. Some of the private school’s most experienced teachers – including Sue Riley, a 48-year-old math teacher for the past ten years – are being informed that their contracts will not be renewed (see accompanying story).

The sadness over the departures, however, is tempered by relief over the success of the pledge drive -- known as The Pirate Fund – the brainchild of a newly fiscally assertive board, reacting with urgency to

an enormous debt burden threatening the school’s future.

Launched just over a year ago by Board Chairman Ron Edwards, as well as board member Lorne Waxlax and alums Matt Gafton and Bill Becker, the Pirate Fund raised \$5 million dollars in pledges in the first three months of its existence. But in the subsequent six months, fund-raisers managed to elicit only another \$2.2 million in pledges. That meant that as of November, a little over half of the needed \$13 million had been raised,

In November, the newly hired Mersky pushed the drive’s December 2010 deadline up to January of this year. Since November, much of the total needed has been raised, sources said, most of it from barrier island parents and alumni of St. Edward’s.

“My guess is, the individuals who contributed to the Pirate Fund, if they don’t already know, they will know soon what a difference the fund made,” Barefoot said.

Indeed, it appears that the financial crisis brought on by an ambitious building expansion begun in 1999 has been averted. The school has had to place its lower school campus on the market, expecting to consolidate its 200 students onto the main campus. Further, it is eliminating both faculty and administrative positions, in anticipation of a smaller student body. Scholarship aid also is being significantly curtailed.

“We’re not going to change the student ratio,” said Board Chairman Edwards. Currently, that number is 11 staff members to one student.

Edwards expects enrollment for next year to come in at around 600, down from 725. A campus-wide downsizing was announced in November as a part of a master plan to keep the school solvent once the debt was retired.

The next chapter in the St. Ed’s saga is to consolidate campuses. “We have to make the final move to a one-campus school next year, and change is not easy for anyone,” says Susan Temple, who heads up the school’s parents’ association. She is the mother of a child in the lower school and another in middle school. “We’re in transition, we know that. But we know the strengths the school is going to bring to our children, and to Vero.”

Beyond merging campuses, the school acknowledges it has to rein in tuition costs. For that, board members say, a healthy endowment is critical. Some St. Ed’s board members who have been involved in raising pledges for the Pirate Fund think raising money to shore up the school’s finances going forward may be easier.

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Charity
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sition to take the pulse of what’s going on philanthropically in Vero Beach. She works with both donors and nonprofits to help bring willing donors and worthy agencies together and to facilitate gifts that match the core values and objectives of local donors.

With the county cutting the money it gives to local agencies by almost half, and donors giving less, Bartlett says this season is one of priorities and of giving to organizations that can show direct results of donor dollars.

So some charities have had to become creative, expanding existing events, adding auctions, seeking new ways to entice donors to pick them. Some, like the Quail Valley Charities, opened events up to the community, not just its membership.

Others hosted multiple events across the January to April season, in order to maximize opportunities to raise money.

And that’s just made it harder for people to find time to attend benefits for everything from animal shelters to the Riverside Theatre to the homeless, and the various medical-related charities.

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When budget cutbacks come, they usually go hand in hand with increased demand for services.

Dollars for Scholars of Indian River County began awarding need-based college scholarships to local students in 1965. When the economy takes a nosedive and unemployment rates soar, the Scholarship Awards Committee sees increased numbers of families needing financial assistance to send their kids to college.

Applications for the \$1,000 to \$5,000 a year scholarships were due a few weeks ago and, after a first pass at determination of need, it appears that about 12 percent more students and their families -- 134 up from 120 last year -- are scheduled to be interviewed, according to Scholarship Awards Chair and Sandpointe resident Gaye McIntosh Ludwig.

In 2009, it awarded \$392,000 to 72 high school graduates from all five high schools and also to returning college students, mostly in Florida.

“Lots of parents are unemployed or on reduced work schedules,” said Dollars for Scholars Executive Director Camilla Wainright. “I can’t tell you how many letters I’ve read where one or both parents is unemployed and have been for over a year. We’ll uncover more of those needs as we go through the actual interviews.”

Dollars for Scholars resembles a great number of established, local charities as it relies on a combination of current-year funding and income

from investments to meet expenses and provide direct support to its clients.

When it comes to those funds, the last 18 months has been a nerve-racking waiting game -- waiting for fund balances to return to pre-recession levels and stay there.

Central Beach resident Mark Ashdown, First Vice President of Ashdown Hogan and Associates at Merrill Lynch on Beachland Boulevard, has served oa number of nonprofit boards and

committees in his 33 years in Vero Beach. He says long-term investments are just hitting equilibrium.

“The good news is that since last March, the market has been up and it’s been up a full year. Yes, the endowments are back up, but they’re not screaming,” he said. “Many organizations are just back to where they were in 2008, but they can’t take as much out because they need to be conservative. And, I believe that the annual appeals, the current-year

cash contributions are down.”

Ashdown said most nonprofits took about a 20 percent hit in their endowments when the market dropped 30 to 40 percent, but that because of the blended nature of the investments, they’ve only risen about that same 20 percent over the past 12 months.

“They’ve grown their endowments only due to internal growth, through new money coming in,” he said.

Over the years, Ashdown has advised many clients to include charita-

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Charity

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ble giving in their financial plans and the generosity he's seen -- especially among barrier island residents -- is a testament to donors' care and concern about the community as a whole.

"The positive spin is that Vero Beach or Indian River County is a very positive area for charities, it's a very philanthropic area. You have to give credit where it is due," he said.

.....

To make up the difference while invested funds recover, Wainright and

her board members vie for grant funding from local community and family foundations such as Impact 100, the John's Island Community Service League and Quail Valley Charities.

The Quail Valley Charity Cup started in 2002 to raise money to fund local charities focused on issues related to children. Over the past eight years, Quail Valley Charities has awarded \$1.8 million to dozens of different organizations, making a huge impact on the services those groups can provide to Indian River County's youth.

This year alone, the Charity Cup committee maintained its prior year earnings to award \$250,000 to 23 non-

profit programs at its check presentation ceremony last week.

"We were very fortunate," said Quail Valley Charities Executive Director Martha Redner. "The committee had to work harder this year to get it all done, but in the end it all came together."

Redner said that while the week-long series of events was not expanded, it was opened up to include the community in general, allowing the effort to grow beyond the membership of the club. A bridge tournament and 5k Run/Walk were expanded in 2010.

"The Quail Valley Charity Cup Committee, over the years, has become

an advocate for the challenging work done by each of those organizations in Indian River County. We have learned the needs and each year we work harder to raise money to partner with these organizations. That is a privilege," Lincoln said.

The John's Island Service League successfully raised more money in 2010 than last year -- \$550,000 to about \$480,000 -- said Jeanne Manley, president Service League, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Through a very intense grant process, the charity provides funding largely for the agencies serving the needs of women and children, said Manley. The organization was thrilled with the response it received for its fundraising events, she said.

"It's really something," Manley.

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The county, under pressure to keep property taxes down, took a 22 percent across the board budget cut this year and reduced its workforce to the lowest level in decades. With priorities being essential services, this resulted in about a 55 percent reduction in money given to nonprofit agencies.

About \$4.2 million was awarded to outside agencies and nonprofits, down from \$9.7 million in 2008.

Included in the group of charities affected by these cuts were Children's Services Council, the Samaritan Center, Alzheimer and Parkinson's Association of Indian River County, Wabasso Meals on Wheels, Treasure Coast Food Bank and the Indian River County Mental Health Collaborative, among others.

With potentially fewer dollars to give, the county government is not the only big-giver that is taking a hard look at its budget.

Philanthropic local residents are prioritizing the causes they give to and the high-ticket events they attend.

High profile events such as the Healthy Start Coalition's Dancing with Vero's Stars and the Humane Society's Cause for Paws have captured the spotlight and done well despite the economy.

"Some donors might have had to decrease or delete some of their charitable giving due to unexpected changes in their financial picture," Bartlett said. "I believe they are still committed to support those organizations whose mission are a personal passion for them and their family."

Others take a more analytical approach to giving in economic down times, honing in on those organizations who help the truly needy -- such as the hungry, the homeless and at-risk children -- and tapering off on organizations which provide something that may be deemed as nonessential.

Donors may imagine or even ask

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St. Edward's

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"Most people are not interested in giving money to something like the Pirate Fund," Barefoot said. "They have to give money to scholarships or faculty salaries and feel they are contrib-

uting to the growth of the school. The annual fund is absolutely essential. Tuition revenue is not enough to cover the school."

Barefoot points out that by the first of this past November, 100 percent of faculty and staff had contributed to the annual fund, something he

said is "unheard of in second school education."

"It reflects on the leadership that Mike Mersky displayed right from the get-go."

"That's always very hard, raising money for endowments," says Waxlax. "But some of the people who

don't like to give to debt would probably be interested in other options."

Currently tuition ranges from \$16,600 for kindergarten, not including fees, to \$22,100, plus fees, for the upper school. Next year, rates will rise by 4 percent, somewhat less than the increases of the previous two years.



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Charity

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the organization what the opportunity cost is of them foregoing an annual gift -- what will go away if they don't contribute this year -- and depending on the answer, that's where they focus their resources.

"I would expect they are being more strategic with their giving and focusing on those with whom they have a personal connection and understand how their dollars are making a meaningful impact on the issues addressed by the nonprofit," Bartlett said. "Demonstrating results is more critical than ever."

But what if you don't serve little children and the "meaningful impact" is harder to demonstrate? That's the challenge of some agencies, like the Indian River Cultural Council, which is in danger of being dissolved.

Susan Grandpierre chairs the Cultural Council board and she said the organization is retooling its fundraising efforts to survive some painful recent cuts in the government funding which used to keep it afloat. Membership makes up about 8 percent of the Cultural Council's income and it brings in some cash from events like the upcoming Opera on the River on April 9 and Laurel Awards banquet on April 23.

"We need to become financially sustainable and viable," she said. "It's been a real mindset of pure service and helping our members and we know we have to do something different."

Local public relations professional and event promoter Beverly Paris is working as a volunteer to help the Cultural Council as it tries to weather some very hard times.

"The Cultural Council has found itself in a bit of a pickle with the loss of state funding and less money coming from fundraisers and other sources, and quite honestly, if they don't find some additional funds, they're in danger of closing their doors," she said. "Their immediate future is in jeopardy and what they need is an angel to come forward."

Paris said when arts patrons attend an event such as a play, they see the venue that put that play on, but they don't make the connection that it's the Cultural Council keeping artists and cultural issues in the forefront.

"I don't think a lot of people in this area really understand what an arts council does and how important it is to the local artists and cultural venues," Paris said.

"Health organizations and children's causes are obvious ones, but most of us do really enjoy the facets of cultural activities we have in this county."



After ten years of teaching at St. Edward's School, middle school math teacher Sue Riley's contract will not be renewed at the end of the school year as part of the school's plan to downsize. Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

Teacher

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Feb. 12 that her contract would not be renewed.

"I was plugging along on my normal day and I got an email to come

down to the office and was just basically told that my contract would not be renewed," she says of her brief meeting with Head of School Michael Mersky and the middle school's head, Kristine Alber.

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Teacher

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"I was told not to take it personally, that it was due to the numbers, and had nothing to do with merit.

"But it's hard for me to get my hands around, because teachers are the lifeblood of an institution. You need to have only the best."

Riley is one of the teachers let go as a result of the school's new master plan, which includes downsizing enrollment.

"I'm in shock," said Riley, whose advocacy of St. Ed's as an institution remains staunch. "I had absolutely no indication whatsoever."

Like her own two children, both St. Edward's graduates now in college, Riley received the jubilant email from Mersky last week reporting success in securing the future.

When she saw the word "celebration," she sent the note straight to her email "trash" folder to spare herself the pain of reading the rest.

"I know it's not personal. My performance reviews were nothing short of exemplary.

"But it's hard not to question yourself professionally," says Riley, who was told the cuts were strictly "need-based, not performance-based."

Now she has to carry on until the school year ends, and do her job well

for the students.

"I want to keep the faculty culture positive and not toxic. Otherwise, the students will suffer, and we don't want that," she says.

Riley finds herself torn between wishing the school well, and wondering how it could have let her go. "That's what makes it so difficult. I believe that what they're doing is in their best interest."

She says her own children, who also love the school, do not understand how St. Edward's could lay off their mom.

"The kids can't make sense of it. They really can't," she says.

"They've seen what I've done and

they know what the school stands for. They're like, 'Mom, you're a key ingredient.' "

Riley, who turned 48 last weekend, feels her age may work against her as she re-enters the work force.

She holds a masters degree in education curriculum from the University of Maryland. Currently, she serves as grade level chair, St. Edward's equivalent of a vice-principal, she says.

She was awarded the St. Edward's School Becker Award of Teaching Excellence, and spearheaded the launch of the tablet program in 2005. She has also coached softball teams and the school's competition math team.

"This has been my heart and soul for the last decade," she said.

"That's why this has been so shocking to me. I still believe wholeheartedly in the institution and everything it stands for. But this has just blindsided me."

Victims of the downsizing also include Gail Clark, fourth-grade English teacher and the wife of former head of school Charles Clark.

A beachside resident, Gail Clark is a 28-year veteran of teaching.

Riley called her "a very dedicated teacher."

Riley, who lives in Central Beach, now faces having to sell her house in a down market to relocate, should she be able to land a job.

So far, she has sent out "literally hundreds" of applications.

"My concern is the kids, and doing the absolute best in the classroom, then every other waking moment I'm putting applications in – some in towns I've never even heard of. It just changes everything."

Last week, she traveled to New York for an education jobs fair, but still has no solid leads.

"The whole country and the education system is going through the same thing – public, private, independent, parochial," she says.

"I understand it. But that's going to make it very hard for me. There are drastic cutbacks and they're down-staffing."

She does have an administrative job this summer at Johns Hopkins University's summer camp for high-achieving children. But she cannot get a future without St. Ed's out of her mind.

"It has been my heart and my soul and my dream job for the past decade," she says.

"What can I say? I love it there. I love everything about it. The athletic program, the teaming, the faculty, the children, the parents, the grandparents. I just love it. It's in you. I'm a Pirate. I've got Blue Pirate in my blood."

Riley's contract ends June 1.

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PEOPLE



P.13 Swinging away the blues

The band Swingtime performs at the Mental Health Association's 'Swingin' Away the Blues' benefit at the Polish American Club.

People

Quail Valley Charities gives \$250K to needy



Beverly Smith, Erin Grall, Pam King and Trudie Rainone

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.



Mike and Marie O'Reilly with Tom Maher



Beverly and George Schmitt, Betsy Marshall and Tony Marshall, and Carol and Tim Buhl.



Lee and Suzanne Bertman with Angelia Perry and Freddie L. Woolfork

BY MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

Everyone involved in the massive Quail Valley Charities undertaking agrees that the highlight of their efforts, and what makes the hard work all worthwhile, is when they actually present the checks to representatives

of all the deserving charities.

Since its inception in 2002, Quail Valley Charities has distributed more than \$1.8 million toward programs identified as having a primary focus on children and education.

It was a perfect evening for the Check Presentation Reception, held this past Thursday at the breathtak-

ing Quail Valley Golf Club. There were smiles all around, as representatives from each of the 21 non-profit organizations mingled with committee members on the club's terrace, overlooking the gently sloping hills of the course. Most of those on the Quail Valley Charities committee also support the individual charities as sponsors,

board members or volunteers, which made the gathering a particularly cohesive group.

The original Quail Valley Charity Cup began eight years ago as a Golf Tournament and has since become a week-long event which now includes a Tennis Tournament, Guest Chefs Dinner, 5K Run/Walk and Bridge Tourna-

ment, encouraging participation by the entire community. Long before that week's activities though, a committee of enthusiastic volunteers had begun working on the event, reviewing proposals and listening to oral presentations, and determining which programs would be funded.

Prior to the check presentation, I spoke briefly with committee member Trudie Rainone who was thrilled that despite the economy, the fundraiser had raised another \$250,000. When I asked what made the event so successful, she smiled and quickly said, "Martha [Redner] and Wanda [Lincoln]. They're two very dedicated women. It's a year-long project; we've already started on next year."

Since its inception in 2002, Quail Valley Charities has distributed more than \$1.8 million to programs that are identified as having a primary focus on children and education.

Kevin Given, Quail Valley Chief Operating Officer, also gave credit to Redner, as he started off the presentation ceremony by saying, "We made a change four years ago. I used to serve as executive director [of Quail Valley Charities] and we made a little over \$100,000. Then we made Martha executive director and for the fourth year straight, we've made \$250,000 plus. Now that's a sign of good management."

Event chair Wanda Lincoln thanked the committee members for their hard work, saying, "The event is a success due to their ingenuity and perseverance -- and 8,000 emails. We listen to the non-profits when they make their presentations and it makes us all want to work harder. We can never do enough for our children."

Steve Mulvey, Quail Valley CEO, also credited the generosity of the members. "It's a wonderful, eclectic group, from all walks of life and from all over the country. They open up their hearts and pull together in times of need."

Redner, Lincoln and Mulvey presided over the actual distribution, presenting checks for 23 different programs within the 21 non-profit organizations.

Committee member Suzanne Bertman was all smiles as we chatted. "It's so nice to give away the money," she

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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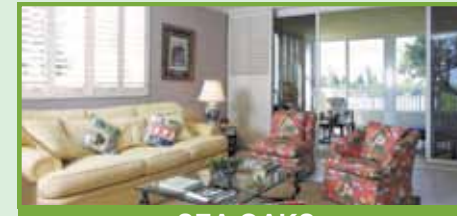
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People



Mary Knapp, Steve Mulvey and Debbie Brower

The non-profits and the programs being funded are:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Indian River County and Big Brothers Big Sisters TEAM of Indian River County – Jump into Reading Program and Sports Buddies Mentoring Program

Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County –Triple Play Program

Childcare Resources of Indian River County – Quality childcare for children of lower-income working families

Children's Home Society – Summer Reading and Math Tutoring Program;

Dasie Hope Center – After-school Literacy Program;

Dollars for Scholars of Indian River County – Quail Valley Scholarships

Education Foundation of Indian River County, Inc. – Sneaker Exchange, School Supply Fund and Indian River Regional Science and Engineering Fair Program

Environmental Learning Center – Summer Ecology Program

Exchange Club CASTLE – Valued Visits Program

Gifford Youth Activity Center – GYAC After-school Educational Program

Hibiscus Children's Center Inc. Child Development Center – Hibiscus Village Child Development Center Program

Homeless Family Center, Inc. – Assist in funding a qualified Children's Program Director

McKee Botanical Garden – Children's guide for Return of the Dinosaur Invasion

Mental Health Association – Mental Health Walk-In Center's children's services

Quail Valley Employee Education Fund – Scholarships for Quail Valley employees

Redlands Christian Migrant Association – Children's House Child Development Center

Riverside Children's Theatre – Learning Through Theatre in School Program

SafeSpace, Inc. – Assist in funding a children's advocate for child victims of domestic violence

Special Equestrians of the Treasure Coast, Inc. – Assist in funding certified riding instructors for therapeutic equine riding activities

Sun-Up Center for the Developmentally Disabled of Indian River – Children's Early Intervention Program

VNA Hospice – Camp Chrysalis Bereavement Program



Tom Tierney and Julia Keenan accept a check on behalf of the Homeless Family Center from Wanda Lincoln of Quail Valley Charities.

spoke with Marie and Michael O'Reilly who have sponsored the Golf Tournament for a number of years, and who joined the Covey this year.

"I believe in giving back to the community and am particularly interested in education," said Michael O'Reilly. "Education is how we keep the country moving forward; we've got to create the right environment so children can

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

said enthusiastically. "It's astonishing that we actually decide what amounts to give and who to give it to before we even start to raise the money. We feel like after we've voted on what we will give them, we are committed to raising that amount. We have never not given them what we said we would; we have a goal and we

do it. Even in two bad years, we've done it – and everybody has fun doing it."

An elite group, called the Covey of Quail Society, was heading in to a special dinner following the reception. Six couples each year are high bidders during the Grand Gala live auction, to become members of this prestigious Covey, which began in 2008.

Before they went in to dinner, I

People

Swingin' fundraiser aids Mental Health Association



Jeff and Shelley Luther

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

The nostalgic big-band sounds of the Melbourne Swingtime Band had guests eager to get out onto the dance floor as soon as they arrived at the Mental Health Association's aptly named Swingin' Away the Blues fundraiser.

Katie Kowanic, the association's Fund Development Manager, credited an active, hard working committee led by event co-chairs Pat Aprahamian and Nancy Bryson for the evening's great concept. The committee collaborated with Paul Malinos, who does the wonderful set designs at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild, and the talented William Bainbridge Steele, to transfer the Polish American Club into an elegant 1940's ballroom.

Money raised at the event will directly benefit the Mental Health Walk-In Center, a program of the Mental Health Association in Indian River County.

Surrounding the dance floor, there were gorgeous pedestal floral arrangements set atop glowing bases on tables with gold tablecloths. The outer tables were just as stunning; adorned with blue tablecloths and water-filled pillars atop glowing bases that shot soft light up to the floral bouquets perched at the top. Votive candles twinkling on all the tables complimented the softly elegant table decor.

The six "loggerhead" garden-sized turtles, exquisitely hand-painted by local artists, that had been nestled in

a tranquil garden setting at Rock City Gardens since their hatching, were on display in all their glory, awaiting the high bids that would take them to their new homes.

A seventh colorful turtle would go home with a lucky winner at the end of the night. All those who correctly counted the number of times the words "It's Okay" were written in the

program, were entered into a drawing to win the little beauty.

Money raised at the event will directly benefit the Mental Health Walk-In Center, a program of the Mental Health Association in Indian River County.

"The Walk-In Center is the only program in the entire county serving people without insurance," said Patti

Nugent, the agency director of operations.

"It's often the working class, or people who have lost their jobs and no longer have insurance and are buckling under the pressure of these economic times that need the help. We also assist them in finding other ser

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

vices such as housing help, or rent and utility assistance. We want to make sure that when they walk in the door, they leave with a plan that will help them."

During the cocktail hour, when I asked Presenting Sponsor Barbara Becker Hurley how she originally became involved with the Mental Health Association, she pointed to her friend Nancy Johnson and said, "She did!"

Johnson remembered, "It was when we were putting together the original

TurtleTrax book back in 2005."

"Mental health is so important; we all have people in our families who have been affected in some way or another with mental health issues because it takes so many forms," said Hurley.

"The Mental Health Association also helps a lot of children at Gifford Youth Activity Center. I love that organization too because they do so much," said Hurley; again pointing to Johnson and adding with a laugh, "She got me involved in that one too."

Hurley sponsored the event in memory of her parents Richard and Lillian



Kris Sarkauskas, Barbara Hurley and Nancy Johnson



Maryellen Conefry, Julie Cawley, Roesmary Haase and Joan Crosby



Mary Lou and Bob Young with Barbara and Frank Taylor

Becker. "Posh is not my criteria when picking a charity to support. I try to pick things I know my mom and dad would like."

Ann Zugelter's normally event-shy husband Dan was itching to get her on the dance floor. She smiled and said, "The big band and the Mental Health Association got him out."

As members of the Swingsation Dance Team from 14th Avenue Dance Studio began an energetic jive demonstration, we were able to chat for a while.

"I've been involved with the MHA for a long time," she said. "It's my passion and my mission to raise awareness of this devastating illness. It destroys the mind, the spirit and finally the body. And it doesn't have to happen if we can get to it early. We have to invest in the front end rather than waiting for a disaster."

Zugelter was appointed by state Sen. Ken Pruitt to serve on the board of the Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation, overseeing publicly funded substance abuse and

People



Bob and Wheatie Gibb with Dan and Ann Zugelter



Grant and Lee Beadle with Tom and Rhonda Lowe and John and Susie Hutchins



The Swingsations from 14th Avenue Dance Studio warm up the dance floor, dancing to the music performed by Swingtime at the Polish American Club during the benefit for the Mental Health Association.

mental health systems, and promoting early detection and prevention.

A delicious catered dinner began with enormous wedges of hearts of lettuce, topped with a chunky blue cheese dressing, followed by melt-in-your-mouth beef short ribs over creamy celery mashed potatoes and finishing with a decadently rich chocolate bread pudding in a pool of brandy custard sauce.

During dinner, guests heard from a

number of speakers, including association President & CEO Kris Sarkauskas, who reiterated "It's OK to get help"; the overall message of the night.

Nancy Ofstie, association board vice chair stressed the importance of treating mental health issues before they become hospital or law issues.

She added, "The goal is to erase the stigma and to have everyone become as comfortable speaking about mental health issues as they are speaking

about any other illness."

Ann Lanier spoke eloquently about a documentary on eating disorders produced by the association that chronicled the struggles endured by her late daughter, and which is now part of the agency's educational program.

"I'm a mom who lost a daughter six years ago and I wanted to do something in the community to help others," she said. "My goal is to get people to get help early. I personally know of three people in Vero Beach who, after seeing the video, were seeking help."

A special appearance by the talent-

ed Orchid Island Singers and another demonstration from Swingsation followed the speakers. And then it was time for guests to show off their own fancy footwork and dance the night away.

Toward the end of the evening, I asked Malinos about the liberal sprinkling of glitter on the tables that seemed to have attached itself to everyone. He smiled and said he had done it on purpose.

"I wanted everyone to take a little something away with them to remember the evening."

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People

Flamingo Fling in the pink for cancer research



Event chair Pat Brandt, DeDe Ashby and Jill Kelley

Photos: Mary Schenkel



Barb Hensel, Brenda O'Brien, Bill Gebow, Jean Ross and Diane McCourt



Weasy Carmack and Cyndi Johann

BY MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

When Pat Brandt moved to Vero Beach from Indianapolis almost four years ago, she immediately put her

background as an event planner to good use. Brandt assembled a "Fling Team" of friends and fellow golfers and started the Flamingo Fling Breast Cancer Golf Tournament at Pointe West, which hosted its third tourna-



Nancy Madsen, American Cancer Society Area Director and Gudrun Brown

ment this past Sunday, March 21.

Organizers expected to raise \$10,000 at the pink-themed event, more than

double the amount elicited in its first year. Donations from the first two tournaments were donated to the Su-

People



Britney Faulk as Flamingo Fanny

adelicious dinner highlighted by filet mignon topped with a shrimp scampi crown.

"We stopped with three holes to go," said DeDe Ashby. "We had all birdies on the front nine thanks to Jill [Kelley]; she's the golfer in the group. But I'm not going to kill myself by getting hit by lightning." Then she added with a smile, "We're the only all-girl team anyway so we'll still win our category."

Britney Faulk was cute as can be as Flamingo Fanny. She has held the position all three years, and her creative costume and flamboyant golf cart elic-

ited smiles all afternoon as she delivered snacks to players on the course.

A huge selection of live and silent auction items and raffle prizes had been donated by area merchants, country clubs, Pointe West residents and committee members. Additionally, physicians from Compassionate Medical Center and Vero Radiology donated mammograms and bone density exams for women in need, and Busy Bee Lawn and Garden Center contributed pink plants to the Flower Ribbon Honor Garden. Even the City of Vero Beach got into the act, donat-

ing boxes filled with a variety of conservation items.

Terri Schmalfluss put the reason for the event in perspective, saying, "My three very best friends are survivors and three others are angels now."

Schmalfluss is also the Team Development Chair for the October Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Her team, Friends Fighting for Friends, includes seven cancer survivors.

"My father and mother both had cancer. It's important to me to fight the disease so that my daughter and grandsons don't have to deal with it."



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People

Domestic violence topic of SafeSpace lunch

BY MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

Denise Brown, who became an advocate on behalf of victims of domestic violence after the 1994 murder of her sister, Nicole Brown Simpson, was the special guest speaker at the "Every Woman is My Sister" luncheon at the Oak Harbor Club to benefit SafeSpace. Although SafeSpace has been providing a safe haven and support to victims of domestic violence in Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties for the past 30 years, it is one of the area's lesser known organizations.

The luncheon served to increase support and funds needed to operate the secure 24-bed, state-of-the-art facility that SafeSpace operates in Vero Beach and to raise awareness to the fact that it even exists.

Gerri Crawford, Sherry Wilson and Weasy Carmack, who were instrumental in arranging the luncheon, have started a grassroots Friends Group in Vero Beach to help spread the word.



Gerri Crawford, Sherry Wilson and Weasy Carmack

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

The group coordinates with the volunteers and staff who are available to talk to civic groups, churches and other organizations.

Wilson also started "12 Dames of Christmas," copying a concept that a friend of hers began in Naples.

"We make Christmas wishes come

true for women and children living in the shelter," said Wilson.

SafeSpace board member Bob Schlitt introduced luncheon sponsors, board members and dignitaries and turned the microphone over to Erin Grall who welcomed guests and said she commended SafeSpace as being the epitome of an unduplicated service in our area.

Grall introduced Denise Brown, who began by saying that

it wasn't until after the murder of her sister that she learned Nicole had suffered continuously from domestic violence. Interestingly, Brown never once mentioned the name O.J. Simpson; referring to him, but never actually saying his name.

"I became an advocate for victims because I don't want others to become a statistic," Brown said.

"SafeSpace is there to help these women," Brown continued. "One thing I noticed at the shelters was that they all had smiles because they were safe and they had hope that things would now get better. There is also a huge need for transitional housing where women can learn to live on their own."

Diamond R. Litty, public defender of the 19th Judicial Circuit closed the luncheon. "Programs like this save lives," she said. "We had 27,000 criminal cases last year, and many of them were domestic violence cases. If it were not for SafeSpace, there would have been many more."

Art Ciasca, director of development for SafeSpace, underscored the critical need for the community's support and said, "We are seeing a 57 percent increase in the need for our services, but at the same time we are facing 15 to 30 percent cuts in government funding."



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Incoming Tide

People

Giving back is a way of life for former ex-pats

BY MICHELLE GENZ
STAFF WRITER

Don and Linda Drinkard under-stand the ex-pat way of life. They've lived it, in Yemen, Malaysia and Colombia.

So transitioning to Vero Beach for an early retirement might have come easily, but for the bluster of two hurricanes, just as they were getting ready to build a house. With a spirit honed of making do in so many challenging scenarios before, they forged ahead, found a builder and created a dream home. Today it is filled with treasures from their travels, as they share their own talents, time and treasure with their new hometown, Vero Beach. In Incoming Tide, we take a closer look at the recent arrivals shaping our community. Here is the Drinkards' story.

It was an inauspicious start to a beautiful relationship: Don and Linda Drinkard met for the first time far out at sea, fishing for halibut off the coast of Alaska, both sick as dogs.

The fact that they made magic out of such a miserable moment is a testament to their optimism.

Twenty-seven years later, so many more challenges transpired in so many places that they have to search their memories to recall the spirit of adventure that saw them through to the other side.

Post- Alaska, their life together had an interlude of relative tranquility in Bakersfield, California, where they moved two years after they met. Both had been living in Anchorage, Alaska; Linda had worked there 11 years as an insurance adjuster; Don worked as an engineer for Arco. Halibut fishing, both agreed, was "what you did in Alaska."

For Don, who grew up in Mobile, Alabama, everything in Alaska was an adventure. He had graduated with a masters degree in electrical engineering from Auburn University, and earned an MBA from University of Alabama, ultimately receiving his on-the-job training in petroleum engineering when he signed on with ARCO, ultimately assigned to Alaska. Now he was traversing Alaska by boat, car or jet to reach Arco's projects there. Compared to the relatively temperate climate of Anchorage, the North Slope, where he frequently worked, was 250 miles north of the Arctic Circle. "It was so cold we never turned off the automobiles, otherwise the engine block would crack," he says.

After a two-year stint there, Drinkard

was transferred to California. With a new baby daughter, the couple moved to Bakersfield and settled into a pleasant life amidst groves of almonds and citrus. With a population of just over 100,000, it was large enough to afford them an interesting -- if placid -- life, particularly with nearby Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles a morning's drive away.

Linda Drinkard began working as a paralegal. But it was an avocation that really took hold for her there: cooking. Taught at an early age by her widowed mother, influenced by her French grandmother, Linda, who grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, had earned a degree in home economics in college. After her tenure in Alaska, marrying Don and moving to California, she be-

gan giving cooking classes at kitchen stores in Bakersfield and Los Angeles. Her passion led her to take courses herself whenever possible -- a tradition she continues now with her daughter Kurstin -- they go once a year together as a getaway.

That talent would prove invaluable with their next move -- a two-and-a-half-year stint in Yemen. The couple

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The Laughing Dog Gallery

People

Incoming Tide



Linda and Don Drinkard in their home in Sea Colony

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

had been thinking more and more about working internationally, and when Don Drinkard heard his company was looking for people for Yemen, he volunteered. "I raised my hand, and said, 'We'd like to go to Yemen.' Then I looked at Linda and said, 'Let's get out the atlas.'"

Not that they went with their eyes closed; the company gave them a chance to house-hunt first. There, they found an ex-pat community of around 200 living not in a compound, but amidst the Arab community in the capital, Sanaa, one of the oldest cities in the Muslim world, dating from the 7th century B.C.

After redesigning their walled villa to open up the kitchen space (intended for women only) Linda Drinkard started cooking from her home for the ex-pat community, everything from selling homemade pasta, to catering parties at the U.S. Embassy.

Within a strict Islamic culture, in which even TVs were rare, dinner parties became their chief form of entertainment – that, along with the occasional spiked affairs, when a group would manager to get something alcoholic on the black market, and they'd share it while playing darts or shooting pool. "We had a ball," says Linda.

Both found the life experience there deeply significant. "What we came to understand for ourselves is that we need to respect other cultures. When you're forced to live with others who aren't like you, you find out, that in fact, everyone's pretty much alike. We all have the same needs and wants."

"It broadened us tremendously," says Linda Drinkard.

Their shared personal growth didn't end in Yemen. In 1994, they were transferred to Bogota, Colombia, where Don went to work for a smaller company, Triton Energy. Over a five-year stay,

the city impressed them with its beautiful climate, European culture – and urban congestion. At first they made excursions by car to the countryside to get away. But after a few run-ins with roadblocks of armed "soldiers," they decided they might not know government soldiers from guerillas.

"It's a real shame that Colombia has the reputation that it has, because it's a gorgeous country, very influenced by Spain, and a growing middle class. I'd love to get rid of those images of narco-trafficking, the guerrillas, the kidnappings, so that others can go and see it too."

Then his company made another discovery in the gulf of Thailand, this time, of gas. The couple relocated again, this time to Kuala Lumpur. When another discovery was made in Equatorial Guinea, he managed the project from Dallas, working with a consortium of companies involved from all over Europe.

There was even a stint in Singapore, which afforded them the chance to travel all through southeast Asia. Linda even went to Burma, with three women friends. "It was the best trip I've ever been on," she says.

"It's just been a blessed career," Don says. "The opportunities we had were just amazing."

While the Drinkards were in Dallas, Triton was bought by Amerada Hess. The couple was moved to Houston. But working for a huge company again proved difficult. Finally, at 55, Drinkard decided to retire.

At last, the world could grow small again, as they narrowed their choice of retirement to Florida.

Since then, they have concentrated on making a meaningful life here. Both have taken classes at the Museum of Art, Don in watercolor, Linda in jewelry making – she is having a show on Mother's Day at Shells 'n Things on Ocean Drive, with a portion of the proceeds going to her favorite charity, Hibiscus Children's Center. There, she volunteers a half-day a week tending babies in the day care center. In the summer, she teaches cooking classes

to the children there.

Don Drinkard, meanwhile, devotes many hours a week to his cause of choice: Harvest Food and Outreach Center. His role, beyond serving on the board, is to help gather donations from local grocery stores and food purveyors to stock the center's Cost Share Grocery Program. The center also offers access to public assistance programs, counseling and job search resources.

The cause of hunger has always held a place in the Drinkard family – his mother delivered Meals on Wheels for 50 years, he says.

"Food is the front door for Harvest," says Don. "We're not just giving people emergency food boxes – but that's how we begin. When people are touched by poverty, we start by giving them a food box, but then we can offer more – other forms of assistance."

In the end, Drinkard says, volunteering has become a defining aspect of his life. "I didn't do that much volunteering when I was working; I was paying too much attention to myself," he says. "But here, in retirement, you get a chance to step back and think about other people."

"All of us deep down are looking for something bigger than we are and more important than we are," says Don Drinkard. "If you live in this zip code, you know you're already blessed. But now we've found a way to serve and maybe return what we've been given."

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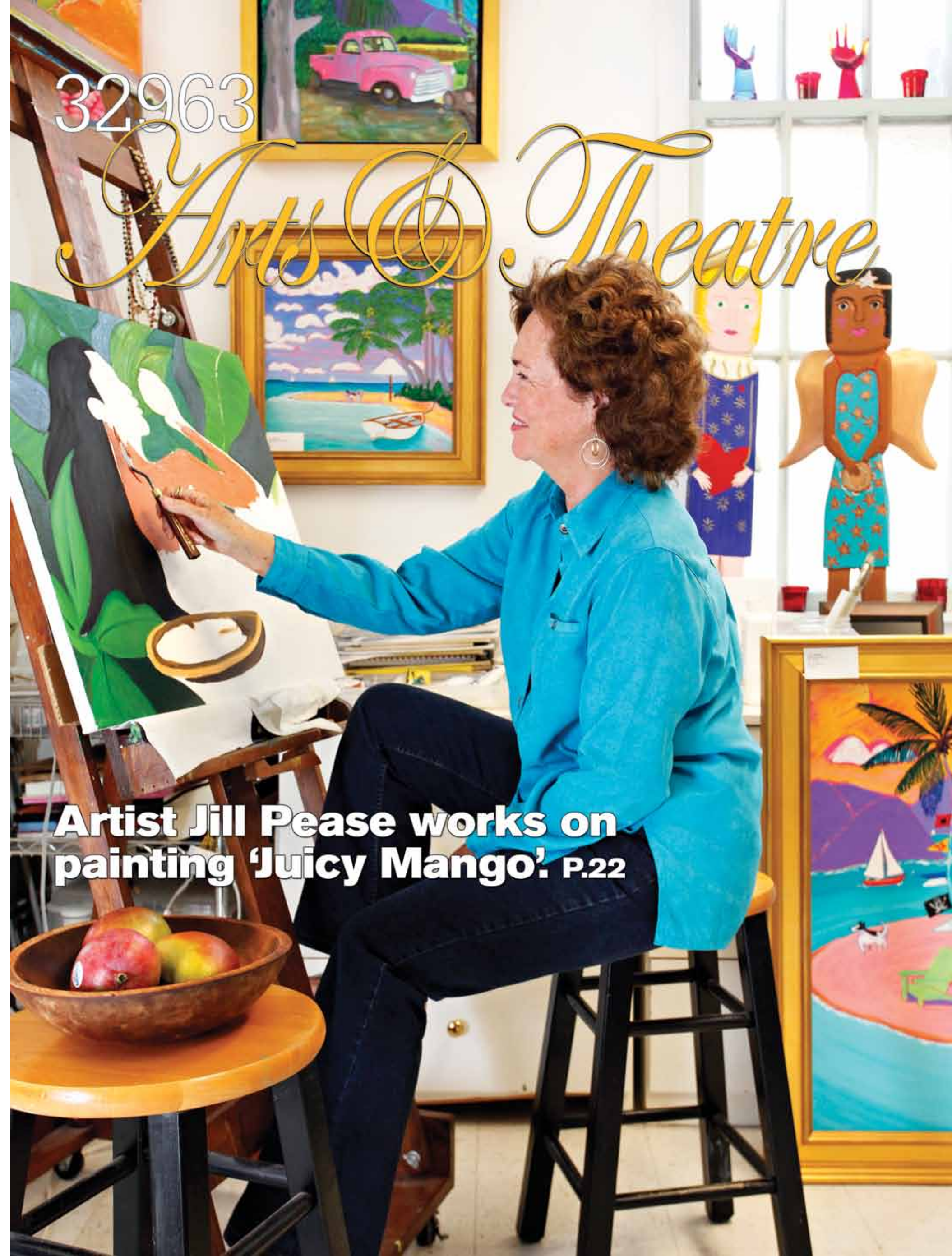
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Artist Jill Pease works on painting 'Juicy Mango' P.22

Arts/Theatre

Artist Pease: Works pulsating with color and life

BY L. L. ANGELL
COLUMNIST

Artist Jill Pease's appetite for color becomes an almost physical craving. A prolific artist, the very walls of her beachside house, a vivid aqua, adorned with her paintings and the works of other local artists, tempt her like sustenance.

"The way I respond to turquoise, I'd eat it if it were in that form," she says with a smile.

Pease's paintings vibrate with life, shining with an essential energy that gives off a sweet mix of happiness, serenity and wit.

A relatively recent member of Tiger Lily Gallery and Studio – she joined the artist's consortium in 2006, Pease has recently focused on landscapes in the Caribbean and American Southwest.

From the verdant mountains and azure blue water of St. Thomas in "Hull Bay Daze II," to the gentle adobe in Taos, New Mexico, "The Teacup

House," Pease's work pulsates with the color she finds so delicious.

In Vero Beach since the age of nine, Pease's roots in Florida stretch way back.

Her Cincinnati grandparents were regularly visitors to Miami; the family's move to Vero was ultimately inspired by a fascination for places like the Driftwood Inn and people like Waldo Sexton; Pease remembers the "arty people" who filled Ocean Drive's Lemon Tree restaurant.

"As I girl, I danced with Leo Durocher (former manager of the Dodgers) behind the Ocean Grill," she recalls.

Pease's life as an artist started in 1994, when she was in New York for a huge exhibition of outsider art, the school of naïve art whose creators typically have little contact with the mainstream art world or institutions.

That criterion would certainly apply to Pease, it seems, who did not study art in college, and admits she doesn't know much about art history.



"The Teacup", 16" x 20", oil, 2007

Arts/Theatre



Jill Pease works on the skin tones for her painting "Juicy Mango" at Tiger Lily Studios.
Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.



"Mafolie", 24" x 30", oil on canvas, 2007



"Mafolie", 24" x 30", oil on canvas, 2007

"I thought I wanted to be an outsider artist," says Pease. But she was disappointed at the number of artists in that school who were more focused on selling than creating.

By chance, she struck up a conversation with a young woman reading a book in Grand Central Station.

The book, "Life, Paint and Passion," had to do with a school of thought regarding art: that it be created in silence, ignoring the inner critic, with the innocent eye of the child.

When the book's owner and Pease ended up seated side by side on the

Amtrak train, Pease felt it was a telling moment.

"I knew this was something important."

The encounter prompted Pease to sign up for a series of two-day workshops in San Francisco with the book's author, Michele Cassou, creator of the so-called Point Zero method.

"Cassou teaches an experiential process. She creates a sacred space for you to paint in," says Pease. "I took to it like a duck to water. I can't be grateful enough to her."

Pease subsequently taught Cassou's method to fellow Tiger Lily artist and psychotherapist Shotsi LaJoie. Together, they teach the Point Zero method at the Vero Beach Museum of Art and in Pease's studio, Alchemy, on Commerce Avenue.

The essence of Cassou's Point Zero method is silencing the inner critical voice and painting like a child.

"It starts with a mark on the paper, letting the paint guide you along," says Pease, quoting Cassou: "The power of painting lies in the creative process itself, not in the resulting

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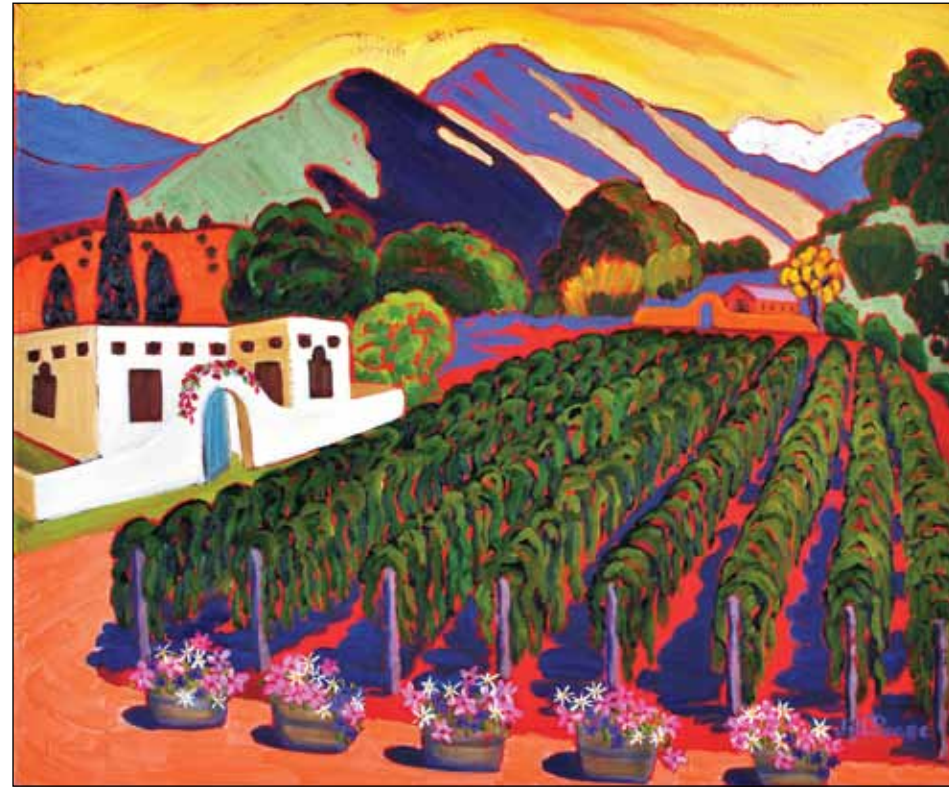
Arts/Theatre



"Hull Bay Daze", 24" x 36", oil on canvas, 2000

product." Working in plein air and from photos, Pease starts by painting the canvas a deep pink for Caribbean paintings and red for southwestern ones.

She turns to "Hull Bay Daze", a lush painting of the backside of St. Thomas. Touches of pink are visible in the clouds, palm trees, and dirt. "When I paint a landscape, I work



"Brilliant Bouquet", oil, 2009

outside about five hours at a stretch and take lots of photos so I can finish it," she explains.

"Painting quickly is spontaneous. But I'm also a detail girl. I hate to

rush."

In fact, there are moments when she stops altogether, giving a painting "a rest," as she puts it. "It's good for them," she says. "The painting

Arts/Theatre



Jill Pease takes a step back from the painting she's working in her art space at Tiger Lilly Studios. Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

school sweetheart, Tom Pease, a general contractor and owner of Florida Shutters, Pease's children are grown now – Lilly Ellis is a realtor for Norris and Company; son Tommy is a salesman for the family business.

She has four grandchildren.

Preferring to work from her home studio – Tiger Lily Gallery is too distracting, she says, Pease starts her day with coffee and writing in her journal, then goes straight to painting.

"I wake up slowly and try to understand what's coming through me -- no telephone, no computer, no

music," she says. "I like the quiet. It energizes me."

Recently her artistic intuition is driving her in two directions: to paint from the imagination, and to escape Vero Beach – she is headed for Paris next month, staying with neighbor Martha Ann Sloane, who will teach children's art classes at the Vero Beach Museum of Art next winter.

This summer, Pease starts painting for a book project, the title, "My Life In No Particular Order," taken from a work by gallery mate Chris Adams Johnson.

"It'll start with my trip to Paris," Pease says.

In addition to teaching the Spontaneous Painting Workshop at the Vero Beach Museum of Art next winter, she'll introduce a new class for beginners and seasoned painters alike, called "Painting Your Story."

Pease's paintings may be seen at Tiger Lily Art Studio and Gallery, 1903 14th Ave. Call 772-778-3443 or visit www.tigerlilyvero.com. In Santa Fe, Pease is represented at the Leslie Flynt Gallery on Canyon Road.

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Arts/Theatre

My Vero

Fun and fancy cars highlight of weekend events

BY MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

Get your motor running, because if you're into cars, trucks or boats, you're in luck this weekend; there's a little doubling-up, but you can do them all if you time it right.

Vero's first-ever, European-style road rally -- Vero Road Rally Magnifique (VRRM) -- takes to the streets on Saturday, March 27 to benefit the Sun Up Center for the Developmentally Disabled.

Some will be tooling around in their fanciest sports car, but even the family van is eligible, as speed is not the objective.

The \$250 registration per car includes a Finish Line party at Honorary Chairs Kathi and John Schumann's residence to watch a professional driver race on their mini Sebring course. Finish Line only tickets are \$125 per person. 770-6626.

"Honk if you HEART Trucks" is the motto of the Touch a Truck Family Fes-

tival to benefit Childcare Resources of Indian River.

It's a family-friendly day filled with every type of truck imaginable, and lots of un-motorized activities also, and it takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 27 at the Indian River County Fairgrounds.

Admission is \$5 each or \$20 per family (up to six people); children under three are free. 567.3202

And for those who prefer water to dry land, the 27th Annual Vero Beach Spring Boat Show will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Riverside Park.

Boat dealers and suppliers will have all you need to get out onto our plentiful waterways. Free admission. 562-7922

Arguably the best fundraising auction in town, Cause for Paws to benefit the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County returns to the Vero Beach Museum of Art for the main event, Saturday, March 27. A huge (as in more than 500) selection

of silent and live auction items awaits the always spirited bidding. Tickets are \$100. 388-3331, Ext. 12.

Playing tennis till they drop, Gerry Berkheimer, Tennis Director at the Jungle Club has expanded the Second Annual Tennis Marathon to benefit the Homeless Family Center by the addition of The Boulevard Village & Tennis Club.

Players begin at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 27 and will compete until midnight at the Jungle Club and until 12 p.m. at the Boulevard.

Adults and children, ages 10 and up may participate at both sites. 778-4200

Arts and Culture

A year-long project by Saint Edward's seniors Adam Koulish, Jack Giampolo and Anna Rosato emerges with the production of the Tony Award-winning play *Butterflies* are Free, 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 26 and Saturday, March 27 at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts.

The seniors will also represent St. Edward's School at the Florida Thespians State competition in Tampa, Florida, in April. 492-2373.

At 7 pm on Saturday, March 27, world-renowned cellist, Mike Block, will perform in concert at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center and is donating 100 percent of the proceeds of his concert to the Vero Beach Orchestra.

The accomplished cellist has performed with fiddler Mark O'Connor in the Appalachia Waltz Trio and with Yo Yo Ma in his Silk Road Ensemble.

General admission tickets are \$10. 564-5537.

The Vero Beach Opera will present Gianni Schicchi & Suor Angelica, 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 28 at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center. Stetson University Opera will perform full productions of the two one-act operas featuring their young artists, chorus and 55-piece orchestra. 564-5537

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32963 HEALTH



Sleep P.28

Clinics try to help island residents get the rest they need

Health

No good substitute for a good night's sleep

BY SANDRA RAWLS
COLUMNIST

According to the Irish, a good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in a doctor's bag.

That long sleep can be hard to come by for many Americans. About 20 percent suffer from insomnia regularly, and one in 10 experience chronic insomnia.

Sleep disorders are commonplace in our island community, so much so that there are several sleep clinics locally providing help to those who have difficulty getting rest they need.

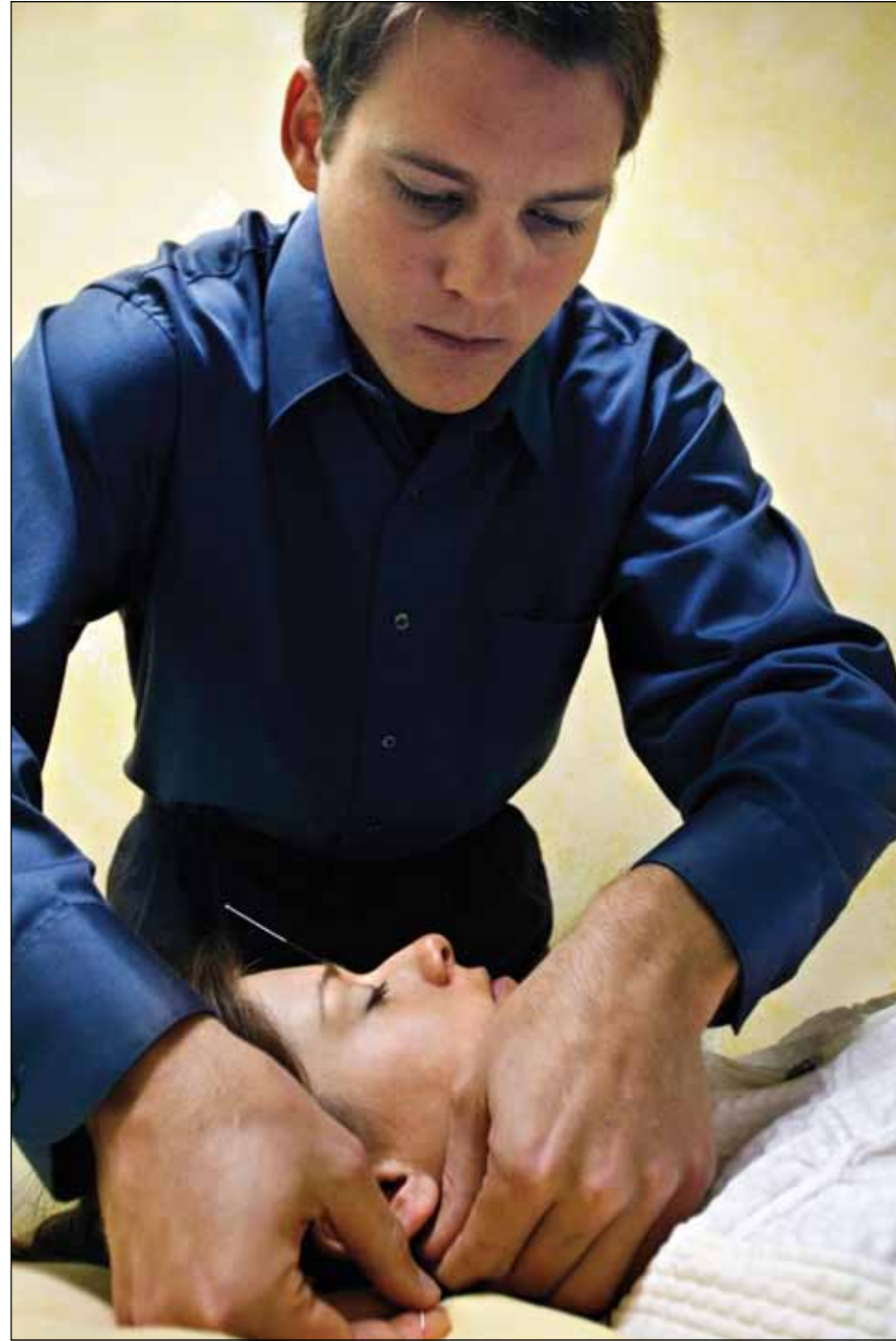
The Indian River County Medical Center's sleep lab and the Sleep Disorders Center across the street are just two places where locals go to find out what's behind their sleeplessness.

At the hospital, sleep technologist Craig Freeman is definitely not sleepy. He energetically demonstrates a large assortment of face masks used in overnight sleep testing or for improved breathing.

Some have latex "pillows" that rest under the nose, while others are made with cloth features, offering special mouth and nose pieces. One design resembles masks "from the movie Avatar," he says enthusiastically, quickly putting on the plastic face covering with straps that go around the wearer's head.

"Some people are allergic to latex or even silicon, but we have something that will work for everyone comfortably," he says, also pointing out the second-floor lab is in a wing of the hospital where all is quiet. "There's not too much activity down here. You can sleep."

The room next door has computers and complex monitors where heart



Acupuncturist Adam Snodgrass inserts needles into specific points to treat Jaclyn Burch's insomnia using electro acupuncture.
Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

rate, oxygen saturation in the blood, brain activity, eye movement and air movement in and out of the lungs can be measured continuously while sleeping at the lab.

"Sleep is so important. Bad or poor sleeping can make you sick over time and make other problems you might have worse," he says, pointing to the moving lines on the big blue screen where a patient's sleep record is being recorded.

Across the hall two restful looking rooms resemble a nice hotel in the Florida Keys or your grandmother's room at her new beach condo. Oxygen tanks and other equipment are well hidden inside the walls. A sleep monitor called a polysomnograph -- small, sleek, and quiet -- sits next to each bed, mimicking a clock radio. A flat screen on the wall plays any DVDs you bring. A private shower and dressing area makes getting up and going to work or returning to your waking life simple and uninterrupted.

Seventy-five percent of the patients treated at the sleep centers are there for sleep apnea and 25 percent need help with insomnia. Insomnia is slightly more common in women, and sleep apnea is more common in men. Night terrors, nocturnal seizures, twitching from restless legs and other complaints also bring people in.

"Getting a good night's sleep is a normal expectation we should all have. If you're not doing that, you need to find out why," says Dr. John Suen of the Sleep Disorders Center at 3735 11th Circle.

He makes a number of suggestions to those who can't fall asleep, pointing out the importance of good "sleep hygiene."

Exercise before bed at night is not

Health



A pharmacist sorts prescriptions at Corey's on Ocean Drive. One common treatment for sleep disorders is prescription sleep aids.

good, although helpful if a few hours earlier, for example.

"The body also must cool down for sleep," he points out. "So a cooler room is better."

"Alcohol is detrimental to sleep," he says. "As the body metabolizes it, the brain is stimulated, so no alcohol right before bed. And keep your bedroom dark and quiet."

jects want to wake up can reset their inner clock too.

He also suggests wearing a motion detector to understand your current sleeping habits, and keeping a sleep

All of us have internal clocks, and Suen stresses how easily they get out of whack. "College students who stay up all night or older people who go to bed pretty early can find they can't stay awake during the day or wake up at 1 at night, unable to sleep."

Exposure to at least a half hour of outdoor light in the morning can reset the internal rhythm for late nighters. Generally, exposure to special "medical lights" brighter than normal light for several hours near the time sub-

diary. "Most of us don't actually realize our patterns, our spikes in the body's activity."

Amber Mephram, a nurse who works with Suen, offers a few more suggestions. "No pets in the bed, and no TV in the bedroom. Stay away from caffeine at night and other stimulants. Try a hot bath and maybe a continuous low noise like a gentle waterfall. Lots of people use fans."

Suen even suggests hypnotism for patients with minimal medical problems whose mind and thinking habits keep them up at night.

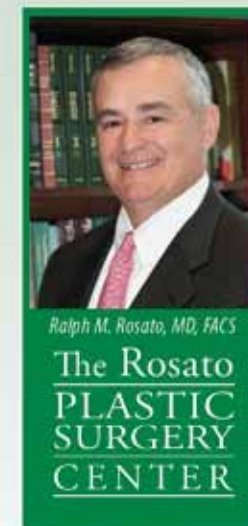
Linda Van Haver, of Self Empowerment Solutions, is a local hypnotist whose work includes insomnia. She treats people in her Vero office or during home visits.

"The subconscious mind is a computer that can be reprogrammed," she says. "Worries, fears, concerns about work or relationships, all these can be trained to have cut-off times so you can fall sleep. Your mental images, what you imagine, can all be re-directed. Also, many people have a sensitizing event that begins a pattern of anxious thinking. You can learn to re-focus your mind."

Acupuncture is also a route some

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Health



Indian River Medical's sleep lab uses a variety of face masks in tests that help determine causes for sleep disorders in patients.

take to better sleeping. Alex Snodgrass, a Vero acupuncturist with offices next to the French Quarter, finds low level chronic pain can keep a person from proper rest.

"Lower back pain, recurring headaches, heartburn, numbness in hands or feet, all these can be addressed with acupuncture and lead to better sleeping," he said.

Magnesium is often mentioned as a natural sedative that can aid in falling asleep. Good sources of magnesium are almonds, cashews, and wheat bran.

Insomnia is sometimes linked to sleep apnea, a more serious health problem. It refers to breathing that stops or gets very shallow while you are sleeping, often due to obstruction caused by weakening throat muscles, tongue placement, or the shape of the air passage.

Enough air does not get into your lungs, causing the amount of oxygen in your blood to drop and the quality of your sleep to be poor.

There is often loud snoring or gasping as the sleeper struggles for more oxygen, often causing frequent waking. Untreated the condition can increase the likelihood of high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke, and diabetes.

The increased amount of soft tissue in the throat of obese or very large men and women puts them particularly at risk for sleep apnea, although anyone can suffer from it.

It also tends to run in families and affects African Americans and Hispanics more than other ethnic groups. It can also be present in children that snore, and they should be checked by a doctor.

Continuous positive airway pressure is the most common treatment for sleep apnea.

Masks like those offered by Craig Freeman are equipped to blow air into your throat at a pressure level that is

adjusted for the individual. The increased air pressure keeps the throat open while you sleep.

Sometimes custom made mouthpieces can aid. "We have plenty of these too," says Freeman, spreading out a variety of shapes and sizes

onto a cabinet top. "They can be softened to form exactly to your mouth. The mouthpiece adjusts to the lower jaw and tongue to keep the airway in your throat open while you are sleeping."

The shape of the jaw can sometimes be the culprit, sitting too far back toward the throat, making air passage difficult when you are asleep.

Dr. Andrew Colgan of Vero Beach Surgical Arts, an oral, maxillofacial, and cosmetic facial surgeon, can help patients with this condition.

He offers the Treasure Coast's most

advanced procedure in jaw surgery, opening up the back of the throat for better breathing. The lower jaw is moved forward without wires and the discomforts of the past to reshape the facial profile and enlarge the area for air passage.

Where in all of this are popular drugs to aid sleep like Ambien or even Zanax? Suen understands these may be useful in the short term or occasionally, but warns about prolonged use.

"There is no sleep drug that's good for the long term. You need to learn how you can get a good night's sleep."

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Health

Are osteoporosis drugs linked to bone breaks?

LOS ANGELES TIMES STAFF

Long-term use of osteoporosis drugs seems to change bones in a way that could lead to unusual leg fractures, according to two reports presented earlier this month at a meeting of orthopedic surgeons. Doctors have reported seeing the unusual fractures in some patients on bisphosphonate drugs such as Fosamax.

It seems paradoxical that a medicine designed to protect against bone fractures in fact might be the cause of broken legs. Adding to the confusion, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration released a statement in the same week as the medical conference that said there is no clear connection, based on available evidence, between the bisphosphonates — including Actonel, Boniva and Reclast in addition to Fosamax — and atypical femur fractures.

The unusual bone breaks — called atypical subtrochanteric femur fractures — were first documented in small clinical reports and through the FDA's MedWatch system, which monitors side effects of drugs after they've been approved. Such reports do not necessarily mean the drug is the cause of the problem, but multiple reports of the same side effect with the same drug can spur additional investigation. Other potential side effects of bisphosphonate drugs have been identified through the FDA's reporting system, including serious jaw deterioration and esophageal cancer.

Here's a closer look at what's known about the safety and effectiveness of bisphosphonates.

What is osteoporosis?

Osteoporosis is a weakening of bones that results from bone loss occurring with age or because of disease. People with osteoporosis can suffer pain, lose inches from their height and are at high risk of fractures in their wrists, hips and vertebrae. Ten million Americans, men and women, have osteoporosis, and the disease causes about 1.5 million fractures every year, according to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases.

Doctors use bone density measurements to diagnose the condition, and recommend screening in women over age 65 and men over age 70. Earlier screening should be done in people

with certain risk factors, such as those with a family history of osteoporosis or who have broken a bone after age 50; women who went through early menopause or recently stopped hormone therapy; and people taking medications such as prednisone, aromatase inhibitors or anti-seizure drugs.

How do bisphosphonates work?

Normal healthy bone is constantly being renewed through a cycle of dismantling and replacement of bone cells and minerals. Bisphosphonates get incorporated into newly formed bone in place of naturally occurring phosphate, along with calcium. They inhibit the breakdown of bone, thereby favoring the building-up side of the

cycle.

The bisphosphonates are extremely effective at reducing the bone loss that occurs in osteoporosis. Clinical trials have shown that drugs such as Fosamax reduce the risk of fractures by 30% to 50% in people with osteoporosis, according to Dr. Daniel Solomon, a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, who studies the drugs.

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Health

How might bisphosphonates make bones brittle?

Since the drugs interfere with normal bone turnover, it's not hard to imagine that bisphosphonate drugs may affect bone structure.

The atypical fractures in people taking Fosamax — the first of the drug class to be approved, in 1995 — now being noticed by orthopedic surgeons across the country are happening in the thigh bone below the hip rather than within the joint, which is the more normal pattern seen for bones with os-

teoporosis. And they're straight across the bone, unlike most osteoporotic breaks. They occur among people who have been taking the drug for five years or more.

The reports at the meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons were detailed studies of bone structure in osteoporosis, in which bones of patients taking bisphosphonates were compared with those of patients receiving other osteoporosis treatments. In one of the reports, a research team led by Dr. Joseph Lane at

New York's Hospital for Special Surgery did bone biopsies and found qualitative differences in bone that might explain the atypical fractures. A second study, by a group at New York Presbyterian Hospital, used sophisticated bone density scans and found that bisphosphonate drugs initially increased structural integrity of the femur but that the effect tapered off over four years of treatment.

What's the risk for people taking the drugs?

Although the new studies describe possible ways that the drugs could cause atypical leg breaks, they cannot say how often this might happen or who is at risk. Solomon says the best evidence to date is a 2009 study published in the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research — the same paper, as it happens, on which the FDA based its announcement that not enough evidence exists to make a connection. Using medical records from nearly 12,000 patients in a Danish registry, it found similarly low rates of atypical fractures in patients taking bisphosphonates and patients not taking the drugs.

"We know these drugs reduce the

risk of fracture," Solomon says — over a time span of three years, which was how long the clinical trials that proved the drugs' effectiveness ran. But, he adds, "we don't really know their risk-benefit ratio after five years."

Current estimates put the rate of atypical fractures at fewer than 1 in 10,000 patients who take bisphosphonates, according to the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, a specialist group of scientists and doctors. (The group has assembled a task force to study the issue in detail and will present its findings in October.)

But Lane says the types of fractures he's seen in patients are truly different from others. And though published studies are sparse, when he asked a conference room full of orthopedic surgeons how many had seen one of these atypical fractures, more than half the doctors raised their hands, he says. And this, he adds, is something new. "Twenty years ago, we never saw this kind of fracture. Maybe the drug forces you to get this kind of fracture instead of the more traditional ... fractures." He thinks that interrupting drug treatment for a period of time — putting patients on what's called a "drug holiday" — might be the answer.



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Florida teachers: 'Scapegoats' for their union? P.43

INSIGHT

MARCH 2010, ISSUE 13

P.34 **Can the U.S. still tackle big problems?**



STORY BY WILLIAM D. EGGERS AND JOHN O'LEARY, WASHINGTON POST

At the height of the debate over health care last month, Vice President Biden put into simple terms a feeling that has become pervasive across America. “Washington, right now, is broken,” he said.

This from a nation that won World War II, split the atom and, yes, even put a few guys on the moon. For years, Washington has been shooting at some big targets -- fighting the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, reforming immigration policy -- and too often missing the mark.

And the arduous health-care reform effort, with its year-long debate, recriminations and dividing lines, only seems to prove how fraught and complex it has become for America to tackle ambitious tasks.

Some blame the red team, others blame the blue team. But most blame “the system,” as though our 234-year-old experiment with representative

democracy has failed in a fit of partisanship and dashed expectations.

“Our government is old and broken and dysfunctional, and may even be beyond repair,” wrote the Atlantic’s James Fallows, in a typical lament. And in a radio address last fall, even President Obama felt compelled to reassure us that “we can still do big things in America.”

The problem is not our system. By design, democracy is slow to change course; new ideas always face a lengthy struggle. Rather, the problem is that the ways in which we have come to use this system -- how we develop ideas, test them and put them into action -- need repair.

We’ve studied more than 75 major U.S. government initiatives since World War II, looking for patterns and lessons, and in so doing have explored great successes and monumental failures.

We wanted to understand how the same country that launched the Manhattan Project could imagine

that “Whip Inflation Now” buttons would curb rising prices, why the nation that rescued war-torn Europe could fail to rescue New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.

Although there are lots of ways that even well-intentioned projects can go awry, we found that successful initiatives tend to get some key elements right. We offer five simple principles that, if followed, could help renew America’s ability to accomplish big things.

Capitalize on disagreement.

Bad ideas generally become reality when they aren’t exposed to external criticism, when they emerge from the echo chamber of a small group of like-minded advocates. (Think of the introduction of “new math” teaching methods or the run-up to the latest Iraq war.) Significant successes, on the other hand, generally occur when leaders cross boundaries of ideology and expertise to exchange ideas with those who see the world differently.

For example, President Bill Clinton worked with a Republican Congress to enact welfare reform in 1996 -- resulting in plummeting caseloads. In Massachusetts, Mitt Romney and a Democratic legislature used market-based initiatives to expand health coverage to 97 percent of the state’s population -- and provided national reformers with a preview of the benefits and drawbacks of their approach.

Openness to different perspectives creates a mash-up of ideas from unrelated fields and can produce new solutions to old problems. In the 1980s, for example, the battle over how to deal with acid rain was stuck in a logjam between corporate interests and environmentalists.

Sens. Jack Heinz and Tim Wirth, a Republican and a Democrat, worked together on an emission-trading scheme based on “free market environmentalism.” The result: a cap-and-trade approach that was one of the most successful environmental programs of all time, cutting sulfur dioxide emis-

sions by 40 percent in the United States without crippling business.

The key is to break free of bias by inviting new voices into the idea-generation process early on.

Design for the real world -- not just for Congress.

As the health-care battle has shown, the imperatives of the legislative process often seem to trump all else, resulting in bills that can pass Congress but that might not work in practice.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the immigration reform of 1986 and the Freedom to Farm Act of 1996 all suffered from this trap, which we call “design-free design.” All passed with healthy bipartisan majorities, and all had results so disappointing that politicians soon found themselves going back to the drawing board.

Avoiding this problem begins by realizing that

it’s far better to replicate an approach that has already proved itself in the real world than to launch an entirely novel solution. For example, welfare reform succeeded in part because Congress had the luxury of learning from innovative approaches in Wisconsin, Oregon and elsewhere.

“We had a lot of evidence about what would work,” explained Ron Haskins, who was the senior congressional staffer who wrote the legislation. “Many states had demonstration programs before we wrote the bill. We just rode the wave.”

This principle also worked during the current Iraq war: The Pentagon and the Bush administration could have greater confidence in the troop surge of 2007 because it replicated a strategy that had proved itself in Anbar province.

Embrace the public debate.

The Marshall Plan is considered one of the great-

est achievements in 20th-century U.S. foreign policy, but when the idea was first raised, most Americans and most members of Congress weren't enthused.

Americans were worried about their own economy after World War II. Isolationist forces were powerful. And the Republican majority on Capitol Hill was elected on a platform of limited government, anti-interventionism and fiscal conservatism.

Yet eventually the Marshall Plan passed by a large margin in Congress and enjoyed strong public support. How did President Harry Truman, Gen. George Marshall and company make it happen?

First, they educated Americans about the benefits of the plan, launching what may have been the largest peacetime information campaign in history. Marshall, Commerce Secretary Averell Harriman, Secretary of State Dean Acheson and other supporters barnstormed the country.

A citizens committee organized a massive, well-funded PR effort that included millions of pieces of pro-Marshall Plan literature, from booklets to opinion essays in newspapers across the country.

The committee was smart about several things. First, it was bipartisan, with the leadership divided

equally between Republicans and Democrats. Second, it eschewed ideological arguments for a more even-handed approach.

"We should not embark on a Marshall Plan program," cautioned committee member and future CIA chief Allen Dulles, "until we have counted the effort, the cost and the sacrifice that we are disposed to put into it."

Third, the committee worked to persuade Americans to commit to the key goals of the Marshall Plan -- Europe's economic recovery and social stability, and the development of private industry and free trade -- before starting to talk about specific dollar figures.

Supporters also played it smart in Congress. Rather than steamroll the bill through, they encouraged discussion and hearings. They even arranged tours of battle-ravaged Europe for members of Congress; these moving visits helped more than any abstract arguments to convert skeptical lawmakers into supporters of the plan.

Not all such education efforts will resonate -- remember President George W. Bush's push to convince the public of the need for Social Security re-

form, and the contentious town hall gatherings on health care last fall? -- but the absence of real discussion can raise public suspicions that politicians have something to hide.

Take failure seriously.

In public life, everything is harder than it seems. You would think that a string of disappointments might dampen our confident political rhetoric, but it hasn't.

Even with public approval of our political leaders quite low, they brim with conviction that their plans will cut costs, fix problems and come in on time and under budget. Such overconfidence is very much a bipartisan phenomenon, and it only makes the job harder. Considering only the best-case scenario produces unrealistic budgets and impossible timelines.

Iraq offers a classic example. Rebuilding the country was supposed to be easy, and as a result, the Bush administration gave scant attention to what might happen after the "shock and awe" subsided. Enforced optimism meant there was no Plan B.

Politicians and bureaucrats must learn to talk to each other.

What do the Apollo mission, the 1964 Alaska earthquake recovery and the Iraq troop surge all have in common? Critical to the success of each was the presence of a "bridger." This is a leader who can move between the political and bureaucratic worlds -- the rare person who can translate bureaucratic language to politicians and tell the political masters when they are off course.

With Apollo it was NASA Administrator James Webb; in Alaska it was career civil servant Dwight Ink; with the surge it was Gen. David Petraeus. Such individuals are critical to executing history-making undertakings but are often undervalued at the time.

Webb was a quintessential bridger. President John F. Kennedy chose him to lead NASA through the political, administrative and technical challenges of putting a man on the moon, and it proved a wise decision.

Though an early draft of Kennedy's 1961 man-on-the-moon speech had set 1967 as the goal for a lunar landing, Webb added what he called an "administrative discount" of two years to account for unforeseen contingencies. He also doubled the cost estimates developed by NASA for the Apollo mission before sending them to the president, adding his administrative realism to counter the optimism of his technical staff.

Webb's prudence helped NASA avoid the overconfidence trap and helped ensure that critical resources would be available when needed. After all, nobody wants to go halfway to the moon. Webb's conservative estimates turned out to be just about right.

Today, the costs of major public initiatives are routinely low-balled. Boston's Big Dig highway megaproject was at first projected to cost \$2.6 billion. By the time it was completed in the winter of 2007-2008, its price tag was an astounding \$22 billion. (No wonder the public is so skeptical of the cost estimates for health-care reform.)

Fifty years ago, Kennedy challenged our nation to put a man on the moon within a decade. We were inspired to success in part because we believed we could do it; we were in the habit of accomplishing great and difficult tasks.

By contrast, in 2004, Bush announced that we were heading back to the moon by 2020. We were skeptical, and when NASA recently announced that it was abandoning the moon mission, no one was terribly surprised. We have grown accustomed to falling short of our goals.

We don't need to look to outer space to find challenges worth tackling. There are plenty of prob-

lems right here at home that need attention. But are we up to the task?


It's easy to look at Washington today and conclude that our political class is too partisan and polarized for anything to work, that the spirit of cooperation that allowed us to win World War II and defeat communism is a relic of a distant age and a long-abandoned culture.

Such cynicism is easy, whereas fixing the prob-


lem is hard. But it is not too late to recognize that once again democracy is on trial and that our dysfunctional governing process is every bit as menacing to our future as external enemies.

Surely the stakes are high enough: If we fail to fix the process by which we achieve our great ambitions, what chance do we have of solving the challenges of today and tomorrow? ●

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CIA Director Leon Panetta

PHOTO: EPA

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Under Leon Panetta, a more aggressive CIA

— STORY BY PETER FINN AND JOBY WARRICK, WASHINGTON POST —

The plan was a standard one in the CIA’s war against extremists in Pakistan: The agency was using a Predator drone to monitor a residential compound; a Taliban leader was expected to arrive shortly; a CIA missile would kill him.

On the morning of Aug. 5, CIA Director Leon Panetta was informed that Baitullah Mehsud was about to reach his father-in-law’s home. Mehsud would be in the open, minimizing the risk that civilians would be injured or killed. Panetta authorized the strike, according to a senior intelligence official who described the sequence of events.

Some hours later, officials at CIA headquarters in Langley identified Mehsud on a feed from the Predator’s camera. He was seen resting on the roof of the house, hooked up to a drip to palliate a kidney problem. He was not alone.

Panetta was pulled out of a White House meeting and told that Mehsud’s wife was also on the rooftop, giving her husband a massage. Mehsud, implicated in suicide bombings and the assassination of former Pakistani prime minister Benazir Bhutto, was a major target. Panetta told his officers to take the shot. Mehsud and his wife were killed.

Panetta, an earthy former congressman with exquisitely honed Washington smarts, was President Obama’s surprise choice to head the CIA. During his 13 months in the job, Panetta has led a relentless assault on al-Qaeda and Taliban operatives in Pakistan, delivering on Obama’s promise to target them more aggressively than his predecessor.

Apart from a brief stint as a military intelligence officer in the 1960s, little in Panetta’s résumé appeared to merit his nomination to become the 19th director of the CIA, but his willingness to use force has won over skeptics inside the agency and on Capitol Hill. Said one former senior intelligence official: “I’ve never sensed him shirking from it.”

The stepped-up drone strikes, Panetta’s opposition to the release of information about CIA interrogation practices, and his resistance to greater oversight of the agency by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) have prompted criticism that he is a thrall of the agency’s old guard.

In the meantime, the strikes have begun to draw greater scrutiny, with watchdog groups demanding to know more about how they are carried out and the legal reasoning behind the killings.

In an interview last week at CIA headquarters, Panetta refused to directly address the matter of Predator strikes, in keeping with the agency’s long-standing practice of shielding its actions in Pakistan from public view. But he said that U.S. counterterrorism policies in the country are legal and highly effective, and that he is acutely aware of the gravity of some of the decisions thrust upon him.

“Any time you make decisions on life and death, I don’t take that lightly. That’s a serious decision,” he said. “And yet, I also feel very comfortable with making those decisions because I know I’m dealing with people who threaten the safety of this country and are prepared to attack us at any moment.”

Mehsud’s followers and their al-Qaeda allies vowed to avenge his death, and within months they put into motion a plan that culminated in a Dec. 30 suicide bombing that killed seven CIA officers and contractors at a base in eastern Afghanistan.

On the Monday after the bombing, the regular 8:30 a.m. meeting of senior staff members at CIA began with a minute of silence. Then the director spoke.

“We’re in a war,” Panetta said, according to one participant. “We cannot afford to be hesitant. . . . The fact is we’re doing the right thing. My approach is going to be to work that much harder . . . that we beat these sons of bitches.”

Drone strikes scrutinized

At the end of the George W. Bush administration, the CIA could keep seven Predators in the air round-the-clock, but the number will double by the end of this year, according to the senior intelligence official. Like other current and former officials interviewed for this report, this source spoke on

the condition of anonymity because the agency does not acknowledge its actions in Pakistan.

Since 2009, as many as 666 terrorism suspects, including at least 20 senior figures, have been killed by missiles fired from unmanned aircraft flying over Pakistan, according to figures compiled by the New America Foundation as of mid-March. From 2004 to 2008, the number was 230.

According to the foundation, 177 civilians may also have been killed in the airstrikes since 2009. Intelligence officials say their count of noncombatants killed is much lower and noted that on Aug. 5 only Mehsud and his wife were killed, despite reports that other family members and bodyguards died in the attack.

Panetta authorizes every strike, sometimes reversing his decision or reauthorizing a target if the situation on the ground changes, according to current and former senior intelligence officials. “He asks a lot of questions about the target, the intelligence picture, potential collateral damage, women and children in the vicinity,” said the senior intelligence official.

Killing by drone has drawn increased scrutiny from human rights activists, who say such strikes raise legal questions when used outside the traditional battlefield. Some critics worry that the antiseptic quality of drone attacks, in which targets are identified on a video screen and killed with the press of a button, is anesthetizing policymakers and the public to the costs of war.

The ACLU sued the government this month to compel the disclosure of the legal basis for its use of unmanned aircraft overseas.

“The government’s use of drones to conduct targeted killings raises complicated questions -- not only legal questions, but policy and moral questions as well,” said Jameel Jaffer, director of the ACLU’s National Security Project. “These kinds of questions ought to be discussed and debated publicly, not resolved secretly behind closed doors.”

After weathering a number of storms on Capitol Hill, including a face-off with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi after the California Democrat accused the CIA of lying, Panetta has studiously cultivated his old colleagues, holding informal get-togethers with the Senate and House intelligence committees.

“It’s Krispy Kremes and coffee,” said Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), chairman of the Senate intelligence committee. “People are relaxed, the conversation is free-flow, and I think that is very useful.”

Last summer, Panetta shut down a still-embryonic Bush-era plan to create an assassination team that would target terrorism suspects and was irritated that Congress had never been informed of the plan. “He found it offensive,” said the former senior intelligence official, recalling that it was one of the few times he had seen Panetta visibly angry.

Panetta has impressed the ranking Republican on the Senate intelligence committee. “I’m from the Show-Me State. He’s done a pretty good job of showing me,” said Sen. Christopher S. Bond (Mo.), an early doubter of Panetta’s ability to lead the CIA. “I think the CIA knows . . . at least their director is supporting them even though other elements of the administration [are] causing them pain and grief.”

Another former senior intelligence official, who

served under Bush, commends Panetta for his aggression but noted that the current successes are built upon agreements made with Pakistan in the final year of the previous administration. The Obama administration has “been operating along the same continuum,” the former official said.

Retired CIA officer Henry Crumpton, who pioneered the use of armed Predator drones in Afghanistan and was a top counterterrorism official at the State Department under Bush, said the number of strikes tells only part of the story.

Advocate for his agency

Expectations were low when Panetta arrived at CIA headquarters in February 2009. One recently retired officer recalled that some of his colleagues were initially angered by the appointment of a liberal politician who lacked extensive experience in the intelligence world and had publicly equated waterboarding with torture.

But almost from the first week, Panetta positioned himself as a strong advocate for the CIA, even when it put him at odds with the White House and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Panetta lobbied fiercely against the release of Justice Department memos that spelled out how the Bush administration had authorized the use of waterboarding and other coercive interrogation measures. He famously unleashed an epithet-laden tirade at a White House meeting over Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr.’s decision to investigate CIA officers who participated in the interrogations.

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Panetta has refused to yield to the ODNi over the CIA's independence and preeminence in overseas intelligence-gathering.

The long-simmering conflict came to a head last spring when Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair asserted that his agency should di-

rectly oversee the CIA's covert operations, while also deciding who would serve as the chief U.S. intelligence officer in overseas locations. Traditionally, the top CIA officer in each country automatically assumed that title.

Vice President Biden, Panetta's longtime friend,

Panetta has become a captive of the agency he leads.

"To survive in the CIA, he had to become more Catholic than the pope," said Anthony D. Romero, executive director of the ACLU. "He opposed important public disclosure of past use of torture and abuse, and has worked to limit the scope of criminal investigations into any crimes committed by CIA officials."

On Dec. 30, a couple of hours before dawn, Panetta was awakened by his security detail at his home in California and informed that something had gone wrong at a CIA base in eastern Afghanistan.

By about 8 a.m., Panetta was told that nine people had been killed there: seven CIA officers and contractors, including the base chief, one of the agency's leading al-Qaeda experts; a Jordanian intelligence officer; and an Afghan driver. The attack also wounded several others.

Panetta has launched an internal review of the episode, in which, Feinstein said, "clearly tradecraft wasn't followed." A report is expected next month.

In the interview, Panetta said he recognized that the administration's strategy entailed risk. "You can't just conduct the kind of aggressive operations we are conducting against the enemy and not expect that they are not going to try to retaliate," he said.

Panetta has led the mourning at the CIA, holding a service at headquarters attended by more than 1,000 people, including the president. The tenor John McDermott sang the wistful ballad "Danny Boy."

"The workforce takes a shot like this in the stomach, it takes the wind out of them," said John O. Brennan, Obama's principal counterterrorism adviser. "Leon showed his leadership by engaging the workforce from the very beginning and overseeing the mourning that goes on."

On Feb. 3, at a snow-blanketed Arlington National Cemetery, Panetta attended the funeral of the base chief, a 45-year-old mother of three. Just before the playing of taps, he handed a folded American flag to the family and later watched one of the woman's young sons carry it away from the grave.

As Panetta took his seat in his car after the service, an aide said, he exhaled deeply. ●

Time to break the fog of Middle East politics

BY DAVID IGNATIUS, WASHINGTON POST

Diplomats love ambiguity. It allows them to fuzz up the hard parts of a negotiation -- the "final status" issues, as they're often called -- and save them for later, when the parties are more amenable to pressure.

This devotion to "constructive ambiguity" has been a hallmark of U.S. peacemaking on the Palestinian-Israeli issue for 40 years.

Rather than state the unpalatable concessions that most analysts recognize will be required for any viable settlement -- that Israelis must share sovereignty in Jerusalem and that Palestinians must give up the "right of return" to Israel -- successive U.S. administrations have tried to defer these unmentionables until later.

But the fog machine blew apart this month, when the Israeli Interior Ministry announced during a visit by Vice President Biden that Israel would build 1,600 more housing units in East Jerusalem. The Obama administration was upset, to put it mildly: Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called the housing announcement a "deeply negative signal" about U.S.-Israeli relations and "an insult."

In the ensuing hubbub over the "crisis" in U.S.-Israeli relations, there have been frantic attempts to pretend it was all a misunderstanding and pull the cloak of ambiguity back over the peace process. But that's a mistake.

The East Jerusalem move wasn't an accident but an emphatic public statement of the Israeli right's rejection of concessions on Jerusalem. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had been trying to play along with U.S. requests to fuzz the issue by avoiding provocative actions on Jerusalem. But the right-wing Shas party, which controls the Interior Ministry, basically called his bluff.

So what should the administration do, now that the Israeli right has put Jerusalem squarely on the table despite the best efforts of the ambiguity-adicted diplomats?

The administration's best strategy is to do what it considered a year ago, which is to state clearly the basic principles that must frame these negotiations.

Those guidelines have been articulated well by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former national security adviser: real sharing of Jerusalem; no right of return for the Palestinians; a return to the 1967 borders, with mutual adjustments to allow for big Israeli settlement blocks; and a demilitarized Palestinian state. Every negotiation for the past four decades has converged toward those parameters.

The Obama administration debated whether to issue such a statement of principles a year ago, when it began its peacemaking effort.

Launching negotiations with this "big bang" made sense to some officials, including Gen. Jim Jones, the national security adviser. But George Mitchell, the Middle East envoy, argued that based on his experi-

ence in the Northern Ireland peace talks, it was better to let the parties haggle before the United States stepped in with bridging proposals.

Rather than stating U.S. negotiating principles at the outset, the Obama team decided instead to push Netanyahu on settlements. The administration picked this fight in the flush of President Obama's first months in office, confident that he was so strong and Netanyahu so weak that if it came to a showdown, Netanyahu would cave.

The Israeli leader coolly bided his time, dicking about procedural issues while Obama got weaker politically by the month. In retrospect, it seems clear that the step-by-step approach was a mistake: Constructive ambiguity, in this case, proved destructive. It allowed the Israeli right wing to perpetuate the idea that it could have it all -- obtain a peace deal without making concessions on Jerusalem. And it allowed Netanyahu to continue his straddle.

Jerusalem is the hardest issue of all in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiation, and for that reason, would-be peacemakers have wanted to save it for last. But this month's crisis makes that strategic waffling impossible. The Jerusalem issue is joined.

What's needed now is for Obama to announce that when negotiations begin, the United States will state its views about Jerusalem and other key issues -- sketching the outlines of the deal that most Israelis and Palestinians want. If Netanyahu refuses to play, then we have a real crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations. ●

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Great work, but a bit more openness, please

Almost five months ago, we reported in these pages on the ambitious campaign launched by St. Edward's School to raise \$13 million in pledges by the end of January to enable the school to get beyond the debt overhang from the massive building program undertaken in 1999, and turn all attention to the future.

"The School's debt must, and will, be put behind us," head master Michael Mersky and Board of Trustees Chairman Ron Edwards said in a letter to parents at the time. "Our goal is to have the resources in place prior to re-enrollment contracts being mailed this coming February 2010 for the next academic year.

So the end of January has come and gone, and for some weeks now, we have been asking St. Ed's how this effort has turned out. We know that during the late fall, St. Ed's approached some of the most generous members of our Community and sought individual pledges of as much as \$1 million for its Pirate Fund campaign.

Did the school raise the \$13 million it was seeking? Is the debt problem solved? Things are at a very sensitive stage, we were told. Hope to have something to share with you soon, we were repeatedly assured.

So we waited. February passed. No word. Then March. Finally last week, contracts for the new school year finally were sent out accompanied by an extremely upbeat letter from Mersky.

As described in our story on Page 1, the letter assures parents that "Saint Edward's School has taken the proactive steps necessary to ensure the financial stability and future viability of our school." It is a "time of celebration," Mersky tells them; "this seminal moment in the history of our School now allows us to ring our victory bell . . ."

Pardon us, but "ring our victory bell?" What the hell does that mean?

Did the Pirate Fund achieve its goal? Did the generous residents of 32963 come through again? Our reporting suggests that the Pirate Fund is on its way to being a big success, but why is that a big secret?

Well, it now appears that St. Edward's has no intention of answering any of these questions. And not only does Mersky clearly not intend to provide answers; it now turns out he plans to do his best to keep anyone else from telling us either. In an email to St. Edward's employees and trustees, Mersky wrote:

"Should any newspaper or other forms of media contact you, please refer them to me."

We have, on many previous occasions, made clear our firm belief that St. Edward's is a pillar of our community. We certainly hope it will be here to help serve the community's educational needs for generations to come. We even think that Mersky has played a key role in making a number of the good things which have occurred for St. Ed's in recent months happen.

But the notion that the Community has no right

of Vero Beach, was that the local daily newspaper regularly saw no need to run follow-up stories on anything.

You would read a story in the daily on something like the St. Edward's fund raising campaign, and months later, you would wonder: "Whatever happened to that?"

Now, we think we may more clearly understand how things like that occurred.

One of those who received a copy of Mersky's email, instructing them not to "discuss in any way"

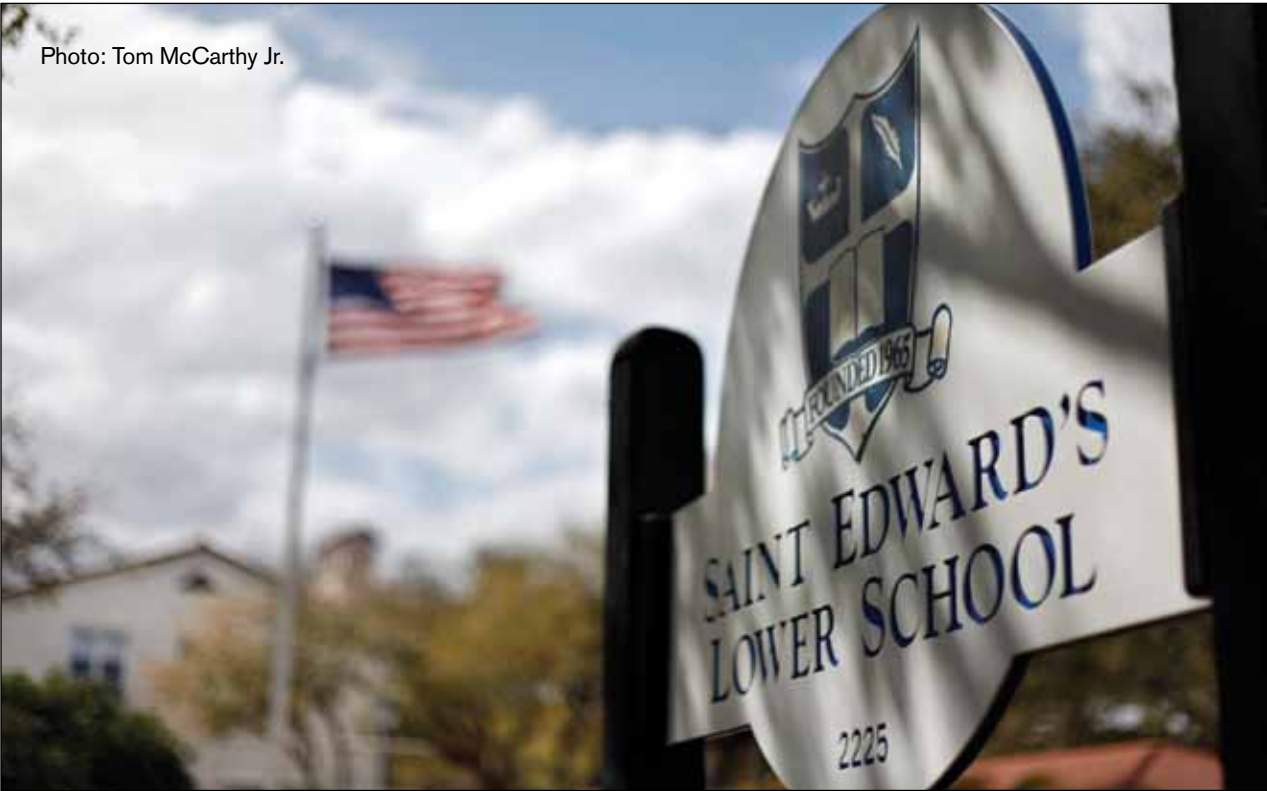


Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

to any information about the outcome of a Community-wide fund-raising campaign -- an effort in which many of the island's most generous philanthropists were asked to participate -- is sheer nonsense.

What we find at least as troubling, however, is Mersky's clear belief that if **Vero Beach 32963** would not pose these troublesome questions, the questions would never be asked.

Unfortunately, we fear he might well be right. One of the things that drove us crazy for years, as residents

the current situation, was Larry Reisman, editorial page editor of the local daily and, as it happens, a St. Edward's trustee.

Hmmm, now that we think of it, we don't recall seeing anything about the success of the St. Edward's fund raising campaign in the local daily.

It's been a week since Mersky sent out his email. Plenty of time, you would think, for a story to have appeared in the local daily. Might one of the paper's editors have a bit of a conflict of interest? ●

Florida teachers: 'Scapegoats' for their union?

BY KENRIC WARD, COLUMNIST

Oh, those poor teacher unions. They expect to be besieged by Florida's Republican lawmakers. Now they're feeling the heat from Barack Obama.

The National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers thought they had a true-blue pal in the White House, but when the president introduced his latest plan for K-12 schools, they turned a dozen shades of purple.

"We see too much top-down scapegoating of teachers and not enough collaboration," NEA President Dennis Van Roekel told the Wall Street Journal.

"Teachers are on the front lines, in the classroom and in the community, working day and night to help children learn. They should be empowered and supported -- not scapegoated," fumed AFT President Randi Weingarten.

The unionists are so fixated on scapegoats that Weingarten used the term a couple of weeks earlier in response to Obama's supportive remarks about the mass faculty firings at the dismally failing Central Falls (R.I.) High School.

Earlier this month, scapegoats were loosed in Florida when union officers spat out the word to allege the abuse teachers would suffer under the Legislature's merit-pay bill, Senate Bill 6.

Noting the biblical basis for the term, Mike Antonucci of the Sacramento, Calif.-based Education Intelligence Agency finds all this scapegoating a bit blasphemous.

"The Bible (Leviticus 16) describes the ritual of sending a goat out into the wilderness as a sacrifice to atone for a perceived wrong. The goat, of course, is

blameless, but pays with its life for the errors of others.

"That's what makes the use of the word in these contexts faulty. You can't say on the one hand that the key to turning out great students is great teachers, while claiming to be blameless when students fail."

That Obama and his Education Secretary Arne Duncan are talking tough about accountability is both confusing and maddening to teachers who, as a profession, rabidly supported the Democratic ticket in 2008 (and in every previous presidential election over the past 50 years).

For this White House to embrace performance-based standards for public-school instructors is as surreal as if Jeb Bush had succeeded his brother at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Florida, which was a national leader in K-12 accountability under Bush The Younger, is now looking at Reform 2.0. Tallahassee lawmakers are getting serious about what they see as lagging academic achievement and a disconnected system of teacher assessment.

Sen. John Thrasher, sponsor of SB6, says, "Last year, 99.7 percent of teachers in the state earned a 'satisfactory' evaluation, yet 60 percent of our high school students, 40 percent of our middle school students and 30 percent of our elementary students couldn't read on grade level. Clearly, there is a disconnect."

Rebutting excuses about the varying abilities of students, the St. Augustine Republican and newly elected chairman of Florida's GOP said his bill would not penalize teachers whose pupils start the school year below grade level.

"Under this legislation, teachers would be measured on how much their students learn in a year.

Also, because we recognize that principals and other teachers can provide valuable feedback to their colleagues, only half of the new evaluation is based on student data."

Using these benchmarks, Thrasher's bill would revoke lifetime tenure rules. "We will no longer provide job security to teachers just because they have crossed enough days off a calendar; job retention will be based on measurable classroom learning gains," he said.

As for SB6's foray into merit pay, Thrasher says that's the real world, and teachers need to join it.

"Many professionals in Florida are subject to annual reviews and have their compensation linked to how well they meet their goals," Thrasher says. "Asking those we entrust with preparing our kids to compete in the global economy to meet these same sensible measures is surely something we can all agree on."

Surely not, the teacher unions say, and they trot out every conceivable classroom excuse, including the contention that standard pedagogy by substitute instructors can sabotage a teacher's best work. This, ironically, acknowledges that there really are qualitative differences in teaching skills and abilities.

Watch for teachers to mobilize parents and students in a rear-guard campaign to hold onto the old-school pay ladder that leans almost exclusively on tenure. This looks to be an increasingly untenable position when their once-reliable political allies in Washington are breaking ranks.

As Antonucci notes, "If NEA and AFT are tired of being scapegoats, American taxpayers are more tired of being sheep -- sheared annually to support a system that not only fails to produce results, but balks at the notion that there should be results." ●

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70 Paget Court	\$1,750,000
321 Sabal Palm Lane	\$1,795,000
40 Paget Court	\$1,810,000
20 Dove Shell Lane	\$1,995,000
751 Shady Lake Lane	\$1,997,000
380 Llywd's Lane	\$2,150,000
290 John's Island Drive	\$2,300,000
90 Dove Plum Road	\$2,375,000
561 Sea Oak Drive	\$2,450,000
389 Island Creek Drive	\$2,450,000
220 Indian Harbor Road	\$2,695,000
71 Cowry Lane	\$2,700,000
130 Sago Palm Road	\$2,700,000
275 Coconut Palm Road	\$2,800,000
381 Sea Oak Drive	\$2,940,000
180 Orchid Way	\$2,950,000
580 Indian Harbor Road	\$2,950,000
311 Llywd's Lane	\$2,995,000

290 Coconut Palm Road	\$3,150,000
280 Palm Way	\$3,300,000
140 North Shore Point	\$3,400,000
370 Indian Harbor Road	\$3,650,000
310 Island Creek Drive	\$3,700,000
35 Waxmyrtle Way	\$3,750,000
380 Island Creek Drive	\$3,900,000
640 Indian Harbor Road	\$3,950,000
228 Island Creek Drive	\$4,050,000
330 Palmetto Point	\$4,650,000
281 Pelican Way	\$4,700,000
391 Sabal Palm Lane	\$4,750,000
30 Gem Island Drive	\$5,450,000
21 Sago Palm Road	\$5,700,000
801 Shady Lake Lane	\$6,750,000
255 Island Creek Drive	\$7,250,000
170 Loggerhead Point	\$9,650,000
Homesites	
541 Sea Oak Drive	\$1,100,000
551 Sea Oak Drive	\$1,100,000
381 Sabal Palm Lane	\$1,250,000
280 Sea Oak Drive	\$1,450,000
225 Coconut Palm Road	\$1,750,000

270 John's Island Drive	\$2,300,000
80 Stingaree Point	\$2,300,000
100 Stingaree Point	\$2,600,000
13 Sea Court	\$3,775,000
662 Ocean Road	\$3,900,000
60 Gem Island Drive	\$4,150,000
810 Manatee Inlet	\$5,300,000
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777 Sea Oak Drive #717, 2BR/2BA	\$410,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #714, 2BR/2BA	\$450,000
431 Silver Moss Drive, #104	\$485,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #710, 3BR/3BA	\$525,000
401 Silver Moss Drive	\$625,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #702, 3BR/3BA	\$685,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #725, 3BR/3BA	\$685,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #707, 3BR/3BA	\$695,000
777 Sea Oak Drive #701, 3BR/3BA	\$710,000
467 Silver Moss Drive	\$750,000
363 Silver Moss Drive	\$785,000
213 Silver Moss Drive	\$820,000
251 Silver Moss Drive	\$825,000
173 Silver Moss Drive	\$850,000

233 Silver Moss Drive	\$850,000
323 Silver Moss Drive	\$900,000
Island House (590-660± SF efficiencies)	
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#117	\$175,000
#118	\$175,000
#121	\$214,010
#147	\$245,000
#251	\$248,000
#151	\$250,000
#210	\$287,500
#144	\$290,000
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#132	(NEW) \$395,000
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600 Beach Road #331, 2BR/2BA	\$725,000
700 Beach Road #355, 2BR/2BA	\$725,000
100 Ocean Road #104, 2BR/2BA	\$750,000

700 Beach Road #159, 3BR/2BA	\$750,000
550 Beach Road #221, 2BR/2BA	\$775,000
500 Beach Road #210, 2BR/2BA	\$795,000
100 Ocean Road #111, 2BR/2BA	\$825,000
850 Beach Road #277, 2BR/2BA	\$975,000
950 Beach Road #193, 3BR/2BA	\$1,000,000
100 Ocean Road #112, 3BR/2BA	\$1,150,000
500 Beach Road #203, 3BR/2BA	\$1,150,000
900 Beach Road #382, 2BR/2BA	\$1,190,000
900 Beach Road #285, 2BR/2BA	\$1,260,000
1000 Beach Road #396, 2BR/2BA	\$1,290,000
700 Beach Road #148, 3BR/2BA	\$1,300,000
700 Beach Road #149, 3BR/2BA	\$1,300,000

800 Beach Road #172, 3BR/3BA	\$1,350,000
1000 Beach Road #294, 3BR/3BA	\$1,350,000
500 Beach Road #116, 3BR/2BA	\$1,400,000
650 Beach Road #345, 3BR/2BA	\$1,400,000
300 Ocean Road #1F, 3BR/3BA	\$1,475,000
700 Beach Road #150, 3BR/2BA	\$1,495,000
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250 Ocean Road #3C, 3BR/3BA	\$1,600,000
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241 Sea Oak Drive

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300 Ocean Road, #1E
8 Sea Court
730 Beach Road
900 Beach Road #181
800 Beach Road #169 & #371
400 Beach Road #133 & #222
400 Beach Road #228 & #230
600 Beach Road #135 & #330
700 Beach Road #250
311 Indian Harbor Road

110 Coconut Palm Road
241 Sundial Court
750 Beach Road #303
450 Beach Rd. #120, #223 & #324
111 John's Island Drive #3, 4, 5 & 10
381 Sabal Palm Lane
650 Indian Harbor Road
401 Indian Harbor Road
511 Sea Oak Drive
103 Island Creek Drive
500 Beach Rd. #109, #311, #202

100 Ocean Road #212
250 Ocean Road #2C
1000 Beach Road #295
850 Beach Road #375
381 Sea Oak Drive
430 Coconut Palm Road
291 Sabal Palm Lane
281 Sea Oak Drive
950 Beach Road #391
321 Indian Creek Drive
400 Ocean Road #183

191 Terrapin Point
1 Dove Shell Lane
531 Sea Oak Drive
210 Live Oak Way
1150 Beach Road #3L
353 Silver Moss Drive
231 Silver Moss Drive
652 Ocean Road
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US trains nuclear detectives to trace ‘loose’ nukes

BY PETER N. SPOTTS, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

It was not Urskan Hanifi’s night. He was stopped at a border checkpoint just after midnight, crossing from Romania into Bulgaria, when guards doing a routine inspection of his car turned up documents written in Russian – including one that described a shipment of uranium.

It was enough to make the guards suspicious. Popping the trunk, they found an air compressor inside, and upon closer inspection a tiny amount of highly enriched uranium, encased in a small glass vial, encased in wax, encased in a lead container.

Busted. The uranium in this nuclear-age nesting doll wasn’t weapons-grade, but it was sufficiently enriched to suggest that the batch it came from could be turned into a crude atomic bomb.

But where did it come from? And who performed a serious enrichment job on it?

Those questions, still largely unanswered in the 1999 Hanifi event, exemplify the kind of puzzle that falls to scientists involved in the small but vital field of nuclear forensics.

Call it “CSI Atomic.” Now, almost a decade after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the US government wants to ensure its nuclear forensics proficiency – and an adequate stable of scientists who know their way around radioactive materials.

The Nuclear Forensic and Attribution Act, signed into law last month, aims to improve coordination among US agencies that probe cases of nuclear terrorism or nuclear smuggling. And it encourages tighter international cooperation in probing incidents beyond US soil.

But just as important, it is designed to attract a fresh crop of scientists to the field, in recognition of a looming shortage of such expertise as current scientists near retirement. Scholarships for undergrads, fellowships for PhD candidates, and research awards to professors teaching in relevant fields are the government’s incentives.

In return for the PhD fellowships, graduates must work two years at a national lab or at other federal agencies that help investigate nuclear terrorism or illegal trafficking.

Federal agencies already were beefing up their

ability to trace radioactive materials to their sources – either samples intercepted during an investigation or, in the worst case, residue collected after a “dirty” bomb or nuclear device detonates. Still, the new law gives these efforts a more formal status, something that is “gratifying” to William Daitch, head of the Department of Homeland Security’s National Technical Nuclear Forensics Center (NTNFC) in Washington.

Politicians from former Vice President Dick Cheney to President Obama have recently identified nuclear terrorism as America’s most serious security threat. A key reason for their concern: a steady drumbeat of attempted or actual incidents of nuclear-materials trafficking.



Julie Gostic at the Lawrence Livermore National Lab

Between 1993, when the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency began gathering data on illegal trafficking in nuclear materials, and 2008, the agency received 336 confirmed reports of criminal activity involving nuclear material. The IAEA logged another 421 incidents of stolen or lost nuclear material worldwide. Since 1995, reported incidents have averaged 19 a year.

Moreover, the soil for nuclear mischief may be getting more fertile. At the same time, a shortage of nuclear forensics experts looms, experts say, citing unclassified reports on the field and a soon-to-be-released study from the National Academy of Sciences.

Indeed, these days just 60 researchers – mainly at the national labs – have experience in nuclear forensics, and none of them works full time on it, says Benn Tannenbaum of the Center for Science, Technology, and Security

Policy of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Why so few? Many people with the skills to conduct nuclear forensic investigations opt for higher-paying jobs in other sectors, such as nuclear medicine or nuclear power.

Then, too, the US government ended underground nuclear-weapons testing in 1992, reducing the demand for a corps

of full-time scientists who analyze test results and devise technologies to increase the precision and speed of that analysis, says Mr. Daitch at NTNFC.

But there’s much work yet to do, says the AAAS’s Dr. Tannenbaum. “We’re still not at the limits of physics as far as how accurate our measurements can be or how fast [they] can be taken.”

To attract young scientists into radiochemistry and nuclear forensics, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., finds summer internships to be a promising avenue for piquing the interest of undergraduates, says Nancy Hutcheon, who administers the lab’s program, funded by the NTNFC. At least six students “are doing graduate-thesis work that in some way is involved with the nuclear forensics arena,” she says.

One is Greg Brennecka, an Arizona State University student working toward a PhD in isotope geochemistry – a field that studies the abundance of chemical elements and their isotopes, including radioactive isotopes.

Brennecka has spent several summers interning with the lab’s nuclear forensic scientists. Once he finishes at ASU, he says, he may wind up at another university doing research. “But over the long term, I would like to something like Livermore’s nuclear forensics program.”

One of his projects there: developing ways to help pinpoint which of the 150 uranium mines that ever existed on the planet a sample came from.

On TV, forensic scientists of every ilk produce results in no time, but the reality is slower – and Daitch acknowledges the potential for enormous pressure for quick results. Nuclear forensic scientists are working toward that end, but the Hanifi case illustrates the difficulties.

Nine months after Bulgaria confiscated the vial of uranium, the US requested the sample. It took another nine months for Lawrence Livermore scientists to finish their analysis. Physical traits of the sample indicate it came from outside the US. Traces of paper pointed to Europe as the source for the trees. The glass vial appeared to be similar to those used at nuclear-fuel reprocessing plants to archive samples.

As for Hanifi? He served a short prison sentence in Bulgaria and was fined the equivalent of \$900. Soon after his release, Hanifi went home to Moldova and reportedly died a short time later under mysterious circumstances.

Patrick Grant, with the lab’s Forensics Science Center, says the material’s source remains uncertain, although some reports suggest that the uranium came from a nuclear-fuel reprocessing facility in Russia. In effect, it is a nuclear “cold case.”

Still, there are promising approaches to speeding an investigation.

One is to use high-speed supercomputers to model potential terrorist nuclear devices. The intent is to build a virtual archive of devices against which investigators can compare what they may one day find in the field.

Another is to use lasers to speed the analysis of a sample.

Typically, samples must be first dissolved in a fluid, which can take hours, explains Michael Carter, who heads counterterrorism research at Lawrence Livermore. Laser preparation may make samples available for analysis much faster. ●

Millennials in medicine: Working shorter hours

BY ROBERT McCARTNEY, WASHINGTON POST

We learned last week that the older generation of doctors is looking down its nose at the new crop coming out of medical school because it’s resisting working 30-hour shifts and 80-hour weeks in local hospitals.

Those young people. Such slackers. They’ve sure got a lot of nerve suggesting that maybe, just maybe, it’s not in patients’ best interest to be treated by physicians struggling to keep their eyelids up and their minds alert at the end of an all-nighter. What gall!

I’m a baby boomer, but my sympathies are entirely with the millennials on this one. In fact, I applaud them for pressing the medical establishment to reform work schedules that have violated common sense and ignored scientific research for decades.

The issue arose in a report last week that older physicians are worried residents just out of medical school aren’t getting enough hands-on training because national guidelines say they’re supposed to work “only” 80 hours a week. The limit on individual shifts is for 24 consecutive hours of patient care, plus six for patient handoff and educational work.

The veterans expressed frustration that the new generation didn’t want to learn medicine the same way they did in the 1970s and 1980s. That’s when residents worked 36-hour shifts and 120-hour workweeks, rules that officially were changed in 2003.

The older folks should study some of the scientific literature on sleep deprivation. It establishes -- what a surprise! -- that people have trouble learning and remembering things when they’ve been up for 24 hours straight.

That means the veterans shouldn’t wring their hands when residents go home rather than stay beyond their shifts to observe one more procedure. The youngsters’ brains aren’t in any shape to absorb the material, anyway.

“If you are deprived of sleep [for one night], your ability to actually learn new facts is significantly compromised by about 40 percent,” said Matthew Walker, an assistant professor of psychology and neuroscience at the University of California at Berkeley.

He added, tartly, “I don’t know of any evidence that medical residents are immune to these effects.”

Walker has 10 years’ experience in sleep research.

Then there’s the risk to patients. There’s abundant research showing that sleep-deprived doctors are more likely to make errors, including fatal ones.

According to a 2006 study by a research group affiliated with Harvard Medical School, one out of five first-year resident physicians acknowledged making a fatigue-related error that harmed a patient. One out of 20 admitted making such a mistake that led to a patient’s death.

A separate 2006 study, also by the Harvard Work Hours Health and Safety Group, found that doctors

get optimal care from a doctor who’s upright only because of two triple lattes in the past hour?

The medical establishment doesn’t need such evidence, either, and that points to the real scandal in all of this. The people we’ve entrusted with our health have been willing to put it at risk for the sake of practices that are absurd.

Why, then, are the long hours in place? Doctors’ pride is partly to blame. The older generation is saying, in effect: We had to suffer and prove we were tough enough, and now so do you.

However, a bigger reason apparently is dollars



who’d worked more than 20 hours were 73 percent more likely to injure themselves with a needle or scalpel than those who’d worked 12 hours. The group found widespread violations of the 2003 ceilings on hours.


“After 24 hours without sleep, performance impairment is comparable to being legally drunk,” Charles Czeisler, a Harvard medical professor and director of the group, said in testimony to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission on March 10.

It’s nice to have all this medical data to prove the point, but it’s kind of unnecessary. Do we really need Harvard studies to show us that we’re not going to

and cents. Hospitals have a strong financial incentive to squeeze as much work as possible out of young, relatively low-paid residents.

I’ve got no problem asking doctors or other professionals to work around the clock for days or weeks at a time when there’s a genuine emergency. Lawyers do that when a major brief is due. Journalists do that when planes crash into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

But I object when the regular routine provides for people making life-and-death choices to be awake for 24 hours at a time. ●



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‘Not guilty:’ Greenspan explains what went wrong

Rarely has a public figure’s reputation suffered a reversal as dramatic as Alan Greenspan’s. When he left the Federal Reserve in early 2006 after nearly 19 years as chairman, he was hailed as the “maestro” and credited with steering the country through numerous economic shoals. Four years later, his policies are widely blamed for fostering the 2007–09 financial crisis. Now Greenspan is offering an elaborate “not guilty” defense.

The indictment of Greenspan is straightforward. Lax regulation by the Fed of financial markets encouraged dubious subprime mortgages. Easy credit engineered by the Fed further inflated the housing “bubble.” Greenspan’s rebuttal comes in a 14,000-word article for the *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, a journal from the think tank of the same name.

Greenspan is in part contrite. He admits to trusting private markets too much, as he already had in congressional testimony in late 2008. He concedes lapses in regulation. But mainly, he pleads innocent and makes three arguments.

First, the end of the Cold War inspired an economic euphoria that ultimately caused the housing boom. Capitalism had triumphed. China and other developing countries became major trading nations. From the fall of the Berlin Wall to 2005, the number of workers engaged in global trade rose by 500 million.

Competition suppressed inflation. Interest rates around the world declined; as this occurred, housing prices rose in many countries (not just the United States) because borrowers could afford to pay more.

Second, the Fed’s easy credit didn’t cause the housing bubble because home prices are affected by long-term mortgage rates, not the short-term rates that the Fed influences. From early 2001 to June 2003, the Fed cut the overnight fed-funds rate from 6.5 percent to 1 percent. The idea was to prevent a brutal recession following the “tech bubble”—a policy Greenspan still supports.

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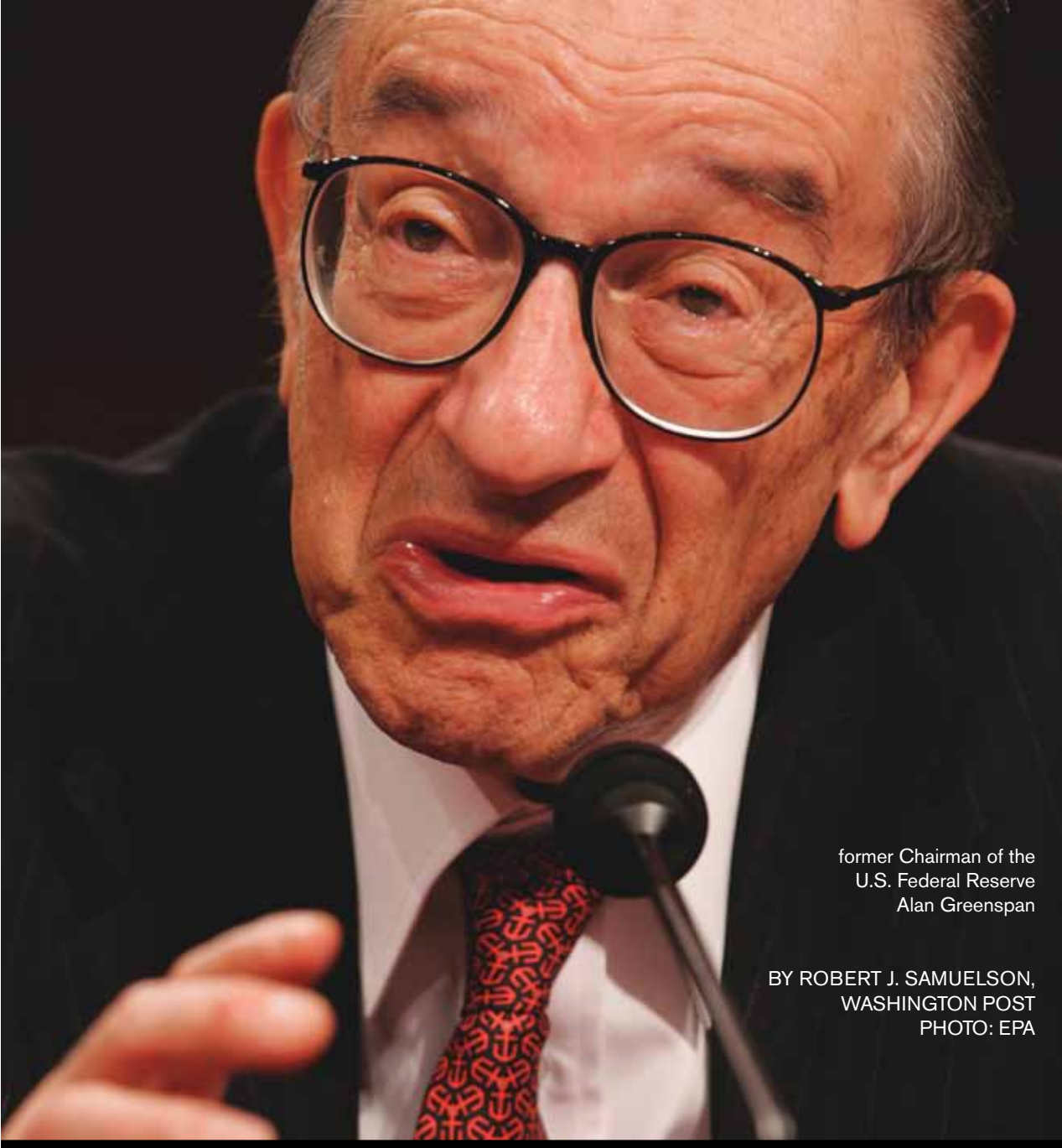
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former Chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve
Alan Greenspan

BY ROBERT J. SAMUELSON,
WASHINGTON POST
PHOTO: EPA

The trouble arose when the Fed started raising the funds rate in mid-2004 and mortgage rates didn’t follow as they usually did. What unexpectedly kept rates down, Greenspan says, were huge flows of foreign money, generated partially by trade surpluses, into U.S. bonds and mortgages.

Third, regulators aren’t superhuman. They can’t anticipate most crises, and even miss some massive frauds when evidence is shoved in their face: Bernie Madoff is Exhibit A.

Given regulators’ shortcomings, Greenspan favors tougher capital requirements for banks. These would provide a larger cushion to absorb losses and would bolster market confidence against serial financial failures.

Before the crisis, banks’ shareholder equity was about 10 percent: \$1 in shareholders’ money for every \$10 of bank loans and investments. Greenspan would go as high as 14 percent.

Up to a point, Greenspan’s defense is convincing. The Fed was a prisoner of large forces that it didn’t completely understand or control. The anti-Greenspan

backlash is heavily political. It satisfies the post-crisis clamor for scapegoats. But his explanation also misreads what happened.

It was not the end of the Cold War, as Greenspan asserts, that triggered the economic boom. It was the Fed’s defeat of double-digit inflation in the early 1980s. For 15 years, high inflation had destabilized the economy. Once it fell—from 14 percent in 1980 to 3 percent in 1983—interest rates slowly dropped, and this minimized recessions and boosted stocks and housing prices.

By 1988, a year before the fall of the Berlin Wall, mortgage rates had already dropped from 15 percent in 1982 to 9 percent. By 1991, the year the Soviet Union collapsed, the stock market had already tripled since 1982.

Greenspan’s complicity in the financial crisis stemmed from succeeding too much. Recessions were infrequent and mild. The 1987 stock-market crash, the 1997–98 Asian financial crisis, and the burst “tech bubble” did not lead to deep slumps.

The notion spread that the Fed could counteract almost any economic upset. The world had become less risky. The problem of “moral hazard”—meaning that if people think they’re insulated from risk, they’ll take more risks—applied not to individual banks but to all of society: bankers, regulators, economists, ordinary borrowers, and consumers.

“We had been lulled into a state of complacency,” Greenspan writes in passing, failing to draw the full implication. Which is: too much economic success creates the seeds of its undoing. Neither Greenspan nor any other major economist has wrestled with this daunting contradiction. ●

Census: Not as curious about you as you think

BY PETULA DVORAK, WASHINGTON POST

We are a nation of people who will turn over our credit-card numbers to someone on television guaranteeing rock-hard abs in two minutes a day.

All too many of us are inclined to believe that a Nigerian lawyer will pay us handsomely if we just let him use our bank account to transfer a small fortune.

And we have no problem Facebooking, Twittering or YouTubeing our toe fungus issues, binge-drinking episodes or children’s transgressions to millions of others online.

So what explains why some fear the U.S. Census? It came in the mail last week. It’s sitting on your kitchen counter, mocking you. Do you dare open it?

There are dozens of Web sites urging Americans not to respond to the 10 questions on the 2010 survey of our country’s population. Some Libertarians think that it’s an invasion of our privacy and that the government should buzz off; there are people offended by the form’s racial classifications; and there are folks who think it’s the government’s way of pinpointing us for more nefarious purposes, like deportation or tax liens.

Response in some cities in 2000 was so bad that the Census Bureau launched a gimmicky marketing campaign to get people to participate in this year’s

count. Dora the Explorer is in schools trying to get to parents through their kids. There is a U.S. Census racer on the NASCAR circuit. The agency even has a 13-vehicle road tour that made a stop at the Super Bowl.

Census workers are bound by law and oath to protect the personal information they gather. Plus, don’t you think Google already knows much, much more about us?

The government wants to know how many people live in the house, whether we own it, how we classify ourselves racially, how old we are and our sex.

But our computer knows whom we wrote to, what we bought online, where we went on vacation and what our medical concerns are. It even has the audacity to suggest certain diets and laser surgery procedures. I don’t think the U.S. government would do that with our data, which it uses to mete out more than \$400 billion in federal money, mostly for health, transportation, housing and education.

Anyhow, the questions really have evolved over time.

In 1850, the census was a lot more like the Google data aggregators of today. It asked Americans to describe whether they were “deaf, dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.”

So now we laugh at how silly that sounds. But maybe, 100 years from now, people will have a laugh at our unwieldy attempts to classify ourselves by race.

This has always been a difficult question. The

Census Bureau has a whole division dedicated to figuring out the best way to accurately portray who we are as a people and where we come from.

The first census, in 1790, asked for a list of free white males, free white females, other free persons and slaves.

It wasn’t until 1850 that people were given the option of describing themselves as “White, Black or Mulatto.”

And even this year, the word “Negro” is offered as an option for people to use to describe themselves, something that set off an uproar.

There are movements afoot that say we should simply ignore the attempts to classify us by skin color, ethnic origin, nationality and so forth.

They are urging everyone to skip all the way to the box that says “Some other race” and print the word “American.”

This assumes that we are becoming a post-racial society, with a president whose mother was a white American and whose father was a black African, and that we have evolved beyond the need to classify ourselves, right?

The problem is, when a group of people protesting the initiative to overhaul health care heckled black lawmakers at the Capitol on last Saturday, it wasn’t the word “American” that they shouted at them.

On second thought, perhaps we ought to bring back the “Idiot” classification. ●

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More of us live in multi-generational households

BY HUSNA HAQ, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Tens of millions of Americans are sharing their quarters with grandparents, adult children, and grandchildren – and it's not just because of the economy, according to a new report by the Pew Research Center shows.

A record 49 million Americans, or 16 percent of the population, lived in multi-generational households in 2008 – up roughly 33 percent from 1980. Between 2007 and 2008 alone, the study reported,

the number of people living in extended-family households grew by 2.6 million.

“The multi-generational family household – the family form that had been prevalent up through century ago, then fell out of favor – has come back,” says Paul Taylor, executive vice president of the Pew Research Center.

And although the recession is partly responsible, the trend also reflects societal and demographic changes such as increased immigration and delayed marriage.

“It's a window into our times,” Mr. Taylor says.

“This trend captures demographic change in terms of immigration and social and cultural changes. And it's a reflection of the harsh impact of this recession.”

In 1940, 25 percent of Americans lived in extended-family households, according to the Pew report. That figure dropped steadily and bottomed out in 1980 at 12 percent.

Since then, extended-family households have made a significant comeback, across all demographic groups.

Several factors are at work in expanding American households, Taylor says.

With its high levels of unemployment and a foreclosure crisis in which millions of people lost their homes, the recession played a major role in driving Americans to bunk together with family, says Taylor.

Another factor is immigration.

“[The trend] is being driven by Hispanics and Asians especially,” Taylor says. “Immigrants throughout history tend to be more inclined to live in extended-family households for cultural and economic reasons.”

Hispanics (22 percent), Asians (25 percent), and blacks (23 percent) all have significantly higher rates of extended-family living than do whites, the report shows.

The most significant sector of the population driving the trend, however, is young adults.

In 1980, just 11 percent of 25- to 34-year-olds lived in multi-generational households. In 2008, that figure had risen to 20 percent.

Young adults are having a particularly rough time with the recession in terms of joblessness. “Unemployment has hit young adults more than any other age cohort,” he says.

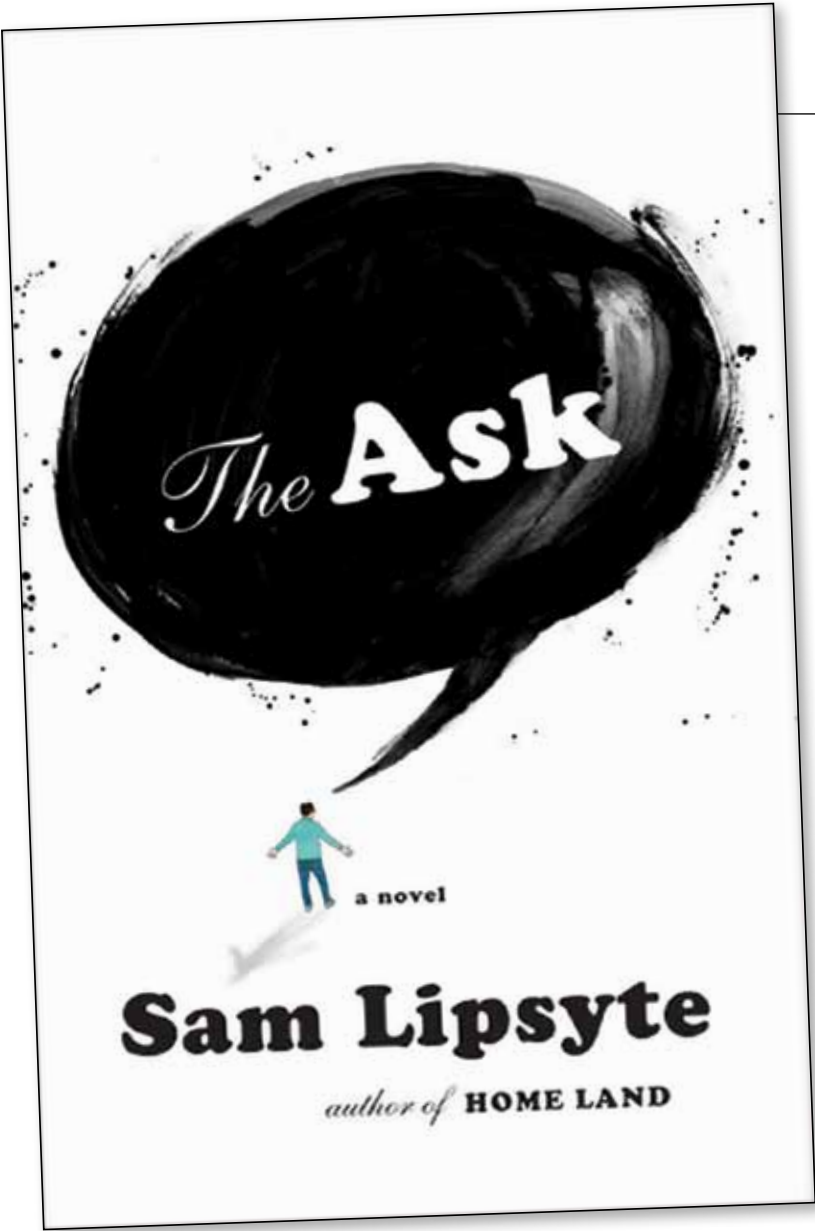
Some 37 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds were unemployed or out of the workforce in 2009, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The other big change is the later age of first marriage, Taylor adds: “That creates a larger population of unmarried young adults who are more likely to live with their parents.”

Interestingly, 20 percent of adults 65 or older now live in multi-generational households – the exact same proportion as young adults.

Many older people lost a big chunk of their retirement funds in the recession, and they also have baby-boomer children (a large population group) they can move in with, says Taylor.

He says he expects to see the trend continue as stretched federal resources drive an aging population to the safety net of extended-family living. ●



Here's Milo Burke, the sad-sack hero of “The Ask,” reflecting on artificial intelligence and computers. Maura is his wife:

“Some argued that the creation of artificial intelligence amounted to suffering. Why inflict it on a poor machine? I wasn't one of those people, but only because I believed that AI would someday make good on its promise of astonishing robot sex, if not for us, then for our children.

“I was also one of those people who hadn't caught up with the latest social networking site. Maura belonged to most of them. She passed most evenings befriending men who had tried to date-rape her in high school.”

Generally, novels make us turn the pages because we want to know what happens next. But with Sam Lipsyte's “The Ask,” we turn the pages because we want to know what's going to happen in the next sentence. Here rants become arias, and vulgarity sheer poetry. Lipsyte's masters aren't Messrs. Strunk and White; they're gallows-humored Céline, Hunter S. Thompson at his most gonzo, the great Stanley Elkin.

Although “The Ask” is unquestionably funny, it's by no means essentially comic. Its theme, after all, is loss, often heartbreaking loss.

In the opening chapter, Milo is fired from his job as a mediocre fundraiser for a mediocre university in New York. Once he dreamed of becoming a painter; now, approaching 40, he daydreams about his old college days, his misfit housemates and former girlfriends.

Maura, whom he adores, no longer likes to be

touched by him, and only Bernie, their nearly 4-year-old son, seems to be keeping the little family together.

Listless and drinking too much, Milo is nonetheless suddenly called back to his former job. The immensely wealthy Purdy Stuart -- a major “ask” -- might be willing to endow a building or fund a project, but he insists that Milo be the go-between.

Years ago, the two had been uneasy friends in college, for Purdy already exuded the sure confidence that comes with a trust fund and an obvious future in the ruling class. Even back then, Milo wasn't precisely upbeat:

“For a time I wore only heavy, steel-toed boots because I figured if apocalyptic war broke out, sturdy footwear would be a must. Then it dawned on me that the better the boots, the more quickly I would be killed for them. My only shot at survival would be shoeless abjection.”

When the two meet for lunch, Purdy is tanned and toned, looking like a million, or rather several hundred million. He's married to a former supermodel named Melinda, a “generically stunning woman.” As Milo says:

“There were thousands, or at least several hundred, just like her in this part of the city . . . perfect storms of perfect bones, monuments to tone and hair technology.

Around here she was almost ordinary, but you could still picture small towns where men might bludgeon their friends, their fathers, just to run their sun-cracked lips along her calves.”

These days, Purdy spends most of his time making deals or jetting off to conferences. He calls Milo from Vail, where he's attending “an ideas festival” and sharing his suite “with a gorgeous renewable-energy guru.” You should come out here, Purdy tells his old college bud:

“It's really something. I mean, these people, you read their books, their newsletters, see them on TV, but to hear them in person, chat with them. Very impressive. Do you realize that someday we will be heating our houses with trout?”

While Purdy dawdles over the exact nature and amount of his “give,” Milo makes ends meet by building decks with Nick, a guy with big dreams. “He wanted to break into television. He watched a lot of reality shows, he informed me, especially the ones about breaking into television.” Nick has no-

BOOK REVIEWS

ticed something strange about death-row prisoners: “Bear with me and answer this question. Why do these death row losers always order nuggets and dipping sauce and biggie fries for their last meal? Is it A, they are ghetto or barrio or trailer-park trash who don't know any better, who could never imagine a taste sensation transcending that of a Hot Pocket and an orange Fanta, or, B, something else entirely?”

Before long, Nick is outlining his idea for “Dead Man Dining,” in which “the world's top chefs prepare exquisite last meals for condemned prisoners.” This seems no more unlikely than the shows Maura and Milo watch together:

“We jumped from pundit to pundit, then on to basketball, Albanian cooking, endangered voles, ‘America's Top Topiary Designers,’ ‘America's Toughest Back-Up Generators,’ ‘The Amazing Class Struggle,’ the catfish channel, a show called, simply, ‘Airstrikes!’ “

Throughout “The Ask,” Lipsyte keeps returning to family life, but particularly to the relationship between fathers and sons. Milo fondly recalls his own feckless, skirt-chasing dad and frankly delights in his son, Bernie -- “Bold name, by the way,” Purdy says. “You just definitely want him to be an accountant?”

The little boy spends a great deal of his free time “on the sofa, watching his favorite show, the one where children mutated into gooey robots, sneered. It was like a parable from a religion based entirely on sarcasm.” The scenes at Bernie's preschool, the Happy Salamander, are all a hoot.

But, then, no group is safe from Lipsyte's gimlet eye. Take the privileged “international teens with their embossed leathers, their cashmere hoodies and pimply excitements.” The disdainful Milo is convinced that these wealthy college kids from China, Japan, Russia or Kuwait are gaming everybody:

“We sponsored them for visas, and when the paperwork went through, they transferred to one of the online universities, lit out for the territories, Vegas, Miami, Maui.

“No classes to attend, all their assignments written by starving grad students and emailed for grading to shut-in adjuncts scattered across the North American landmass, the international teens would have a whole semester for the most delightful modes of free fall. Daddy's Shanghai factories or Caspian oil pipes would foot the bills.”

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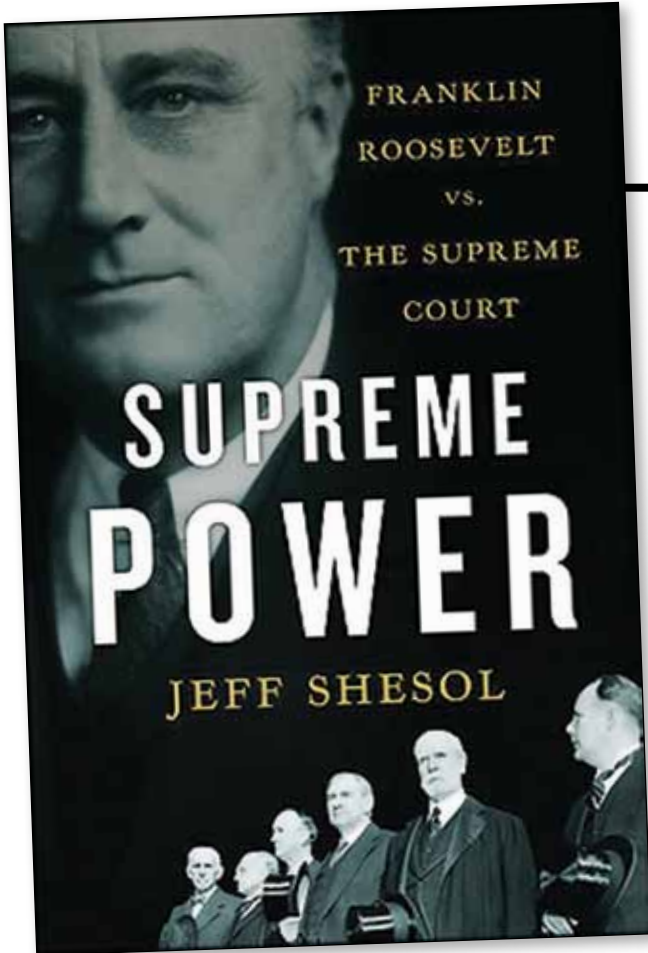
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BOOK REVIEWS

Note the rich fathers in that last sentence. As it happens, about this time Milo encounters Don Charboneau, a bitter 21-year-old Iraqi war vet whose legs have been blown off and who hobbles around on titanium prostheses. Don's mother, a single mom, has died suddenly, and it turns out that his father is none other than Purdy, whom he utterly despises yet hungrily to meet.



The most curious spectacle at this year's State of the Union address was surely President Obama denouncing a Supreme Court decision as six justices looked on from the front row. What made the occasion so unusual was not so much that Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., shook his head and muttered in disagreement as that a Democratic president would attack the court at all.

Purdy would like this ancient by-blow to just go away. From this point on, "The Ask" grows darker, increasingly fraught.

Lost jobs, lost loves, lost fathers, lost hope -- does anything remain? In these pages, even the United States is regularly deemed a loser nation, metaphorically "slumped in the corner of the pool hall, some gummy coot with a pint of Mad Dog and soggy yellow eyes, just another mark for the juvenile wolves."

Purdy's dying lawyer, Lee Moss, says straight out, "My grandson's at Harvard right now. He's a dummy. But then again most of them are. I went to City College

For half a century, ever since the era of the liberal Warren Court, it seemed as if conservatives had cornered the market on decrying judicial activism. But lately Democrats have been the ones grumbling about the Supreme Court's direction while Republicans are looking to judges as a last line of defense.

So Jeff Shesol appears to have picked the perfect moment to chronicle President Franklin D. Roosevelt's infamous 1937 attempt to pack the court with justices more to his liking.

Shesol could have recycled the title of his previous book, "Mutual Contempt" -- about the relationship between Lyndon B. Johnson and Robert F. Kennedy -- to sum up the animus he details between Roosevelt and the Court's conservatives.

Roosevelt, who was irritated with the Court's repeated rejection of New Deal legislation on constitutional grounds, proposed adding a new justice for every sitting one over the age of 70. The scheme would have permitted the addition of six more justices to the nine-member court. Roosevelt's court-packing plan went down to defeat after an intense 168-day battle, the most humiliating rebuke of his lengthy presidency.

Shesol, a former speechwriter for President Clinton, is a fine writer with a gift for telling detail. He has produced a thorough and well told history, one far more ambitious in scope than Washington journalist Burt Solomon's "FDR v. the Constitution," published last year. At times, however, all the accounts of Gridiron Dinners and lengthy asides about tangential characters can drag on a bit.

Shesol seems particularly interested in detailing what prompted Roosevelt to propose the idea in the first place. He devotes more than half the book to the events leading up to Roosevelt's bombshell announcement in February 1937.

At the time the scheme was portrayed as an impulsive decision by a president "blinded by arrogance" after a landslide reelection

on the GI Bill. This was back when there was America."

What else happens in "The Ask"? Don't ask. Because Lipsyte's firecracker prose is so much fun to read, one can almost overlook all the heartbreak in his brilliant novel. Almost. In the end, the dazzle simply highlights the darkness and the despair. ●

The Ask by Sam Lipsyte

Farrar Straus Giroux, 296 pp., \$25.

Reviewed by Michael Dirda

Book World

tion victory, but Shesol shows that it had actually been percolating for more than two years.

Roosevelt was angry with good reason: Decisions shaped by a bloc of four conservative justices dubbed the "Four Horsemen" threatened to lay waste to much of the New Deal. The low point came on "Black Monday" in May 1935, when the Court repudiated Roosevelt's whole system of minimum wages, maximum hours and workers' rights.

Roosevelt came to view what Shesol calls the "radical solution" of court-packing as "practical, moderate, reasoned and wise."

But the way he rolled out his proposal was even more ill conceived than the idea itself. After all, nothing in the Constitution sets the number of justices at nine. The Supreme Court expanded and contracted during the 19th century. And members of Congress frustrated by the rejection of New Deal legislation had floated the idea before the president did.

Yet Roosevelt alienated Congressional leaders by failing to consult them in advance and turned off potential allies by disingenuously trying to sell the proposal as a way to improve judicial efficiency. Southern and progressive Democrats, who were uneasy about expanding executive power, recoiled, but the president showed no inclination to compromise.

The plan failed, but Roosevelt ultimately got what he wanted anyway. In the middle of the debate, the Supreme Court began reversing itself in a series of rulings upholding minimum wage laws, the National Labor Relations Act and other New Deal measures, a shift soon dubbed the "switch in time that saved nine."

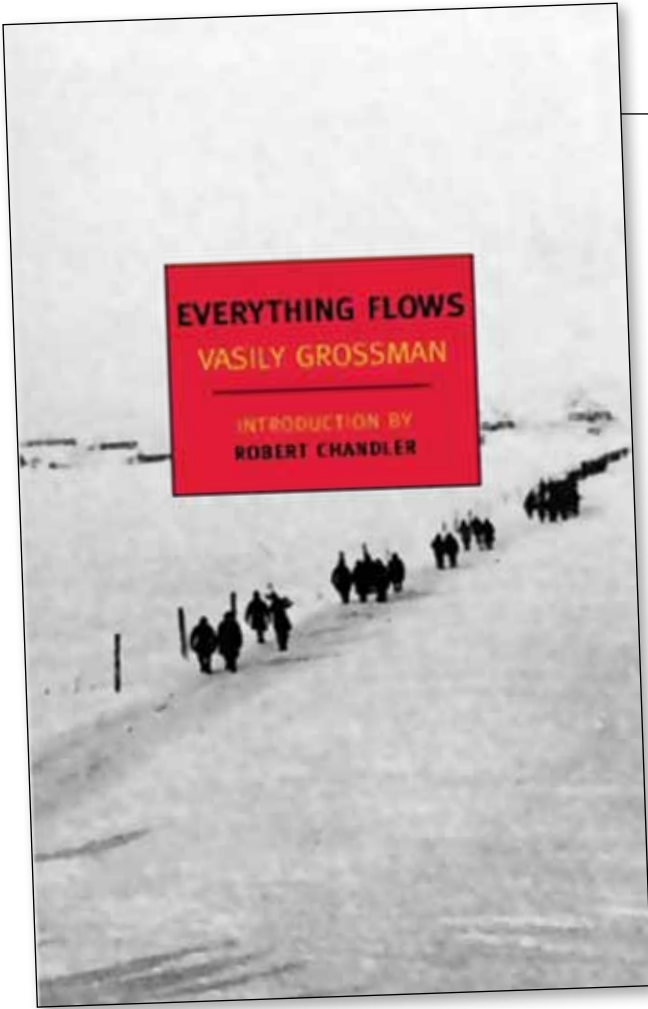
One of the Four Horsemen announced plans to retire; he was soon replaced by Hugo L. Black, who later became the ideological anchor of the Warren Court.

How much credit Roosevelt deserves for the justices' changed course is a question to which Shesol admits he can add little new insight. "It is, in the end, impossible to know what sways a judge," he concludes. "Even the judges themselves do not always know whether their decisions are driven, in the main, by doctrine or emotion, by the dictates of law or politics or conscience." ●

Jeff Shesol, Norton, 644 pp., \$27.95.

Supreme Power

Reviewed by Seth Stern, Book World



There's a moment in "Everything Flows," Vasily Grossman's brief, unfinished and powerful final novel, that sums up the whole spirit of the author's last years, after the Soviet secret police seized his masterwork, "Life and Fate," in 1960 and left him to rot with no hope of publication, writing for an audience of one.

Ivan, a prisoner of the Gulag for more than 30 years, has returned to Moscow and Leningrad to find a world as unwelcoming as Siberia. He wanders the streets like a man cured of the plague but still contagious; his mere appearance terrifies former colleagues and distant family members.

This return amounts to a kind of accusation, regardless of Ivan's quiet voice and careful manners -- because when he encounters old acquaintances, so much remains unsaid. Does Ivan blame them? He could easily accuse every person he meets. But

Ivan declines any chance at an easy way out. He doesn't denounce his old accusers; he heads back to the train station.

"There were occasions when old men released from a camp had asked to be readmitted," Grossman writes. "Ivan . . . now felt like going back again behind the barbed wire himself. He wanted to seek out those who had got to feel so accustomed to their barrack stoves, so at home with their warm rags and their bowls of thin gruel. He wanted to say to them, 'Yes, freedom really is terrifying.'"

"And he would have gone on to say to these old men of the camps that there is no higher happiness than to leave the camp, even blind and legless, to creep out of the camp on one's stomach and die -- even only ten yards from that accursed barbed wire."

That's a powerful passage, and it suggests the polemical strength of Grossman's later writing. (He died in 1964.) What "Everything Flows" lacks in comprehensiveness -- the primary virtue of the 880-page "Life and Fate" -- it makes up for with relentless focus and strident anger. Grossman wrote his previous novel when he still had hopes of reaching an audience; "Everything Flows" suffers from no such illusions.

As such, Grossman bares everything in this novel, including much that otherwise might not have been said. Interspersed here, for instance, is one of the earliest arguments that Stalin was not the betrayer but rather the true heir of Lenin. "In order to seize power," Grossman writes, "[Lenin] sacrificed what was most holy in Russia: her freedom. The cultured, intellectual side of Lenin . . . always receded into the background as soon as the going got difficult. Lenin's true character then manifested in his iron will."

The second half of "Everything Flows" finds Ivan in a provincial city, working as a laborer and living with a middle-aged woman, Anna, whose husband was killed in the war. Both have been witnesses to the terrible crimes that undergird the Soviet state: Anna helped implement the Ukrainian famine of the early 1930s, when Stalin intentionally killed more than 3 million of his own citizens.

"It's impossible to forget," Anna confesses to Ivan. "It's all still there . . . a piece of iron in my

BOOK REVIEWS

heart, like a shell fragment." This is the style at which Grossman excels, turning the conventions of socialist realism against the state that approved them.

The personified weapon, "a piece of iron in my heart," is a classic example: It would not be uncommon, in Soviet state literature, for a soldier to speak of a rifle or a tank as his "wife." But Grossman turns the metaphor on its head, forging the iron into a conscience that eats at Anna, oblivious to any "higher end" that might seek to justify the catastrophic human price.

The famine was the one catastrophe largely absent from "Life and Fate," and Grossman seems to have felt obliged, in his final novel, to make up for the omission. The years of starvation are searingly recounted -- especially considering Grossman had no access to historical accounts -- but this throws the novel somewhat off balance. Before Ivan can tell Anna about his time in the Gulag, she falls ill with cancer, and the novel itself dies a swift death.

There is a quick summing up, and a beautifully allusive ending, but it's clear that Grossman didn't have time to finish the story as he would have wished. We are therefore left, in a way, to complete the novel in his place. Before she dies Ivan tells Anna: "I used to imagine being embraced by a woman . . . as something so wonderful that it would make me forget everything. . . . [But] happiness, it turns out, will be to share with you the burden I can't share with anyone else."

Here the power of Grossman's final novel emerges, like a late Michelangelo, precisely from its unfinished state. Across the decades, it is impossible not to feel a responsibility to reach out and attend Ivan's subsequent confession, however brief, in Anna's stead -- a terrible burden, but one we share not only with Ivan but with his doomed and forsaken creator as well. ●

Everything Flows by Vasily Grossman

Translated from the Russian by Robert Chandler, Elizabeth Chandler and Anna Aslanyan, NYRB Classics, 272 pp., \$15.95 paper

Reviewed by Charles Petersen

Los Angeles Times

JAMES GEIDNER HAIR STUDIO

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Chess COLUMN

THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST AN ATTACK IS OFTEN A COUNTERATTACK

BY HUMBERTO CRUZ - CHESS COLUMNIST

When facing an attack or a threat in a game of chess, defense may not be the only option. Sometimes the best defense is an offense, that is, a counterattack or counter threat against our opponent that is at least as strong if not stronger than the one we are facing.

This concept is often difficult for beginners to master, and even more advanced players have trouble putting it into practice. After all, the natural reaction when we are facing danger – such as the possible loss of a piece – is to defend ourselves.

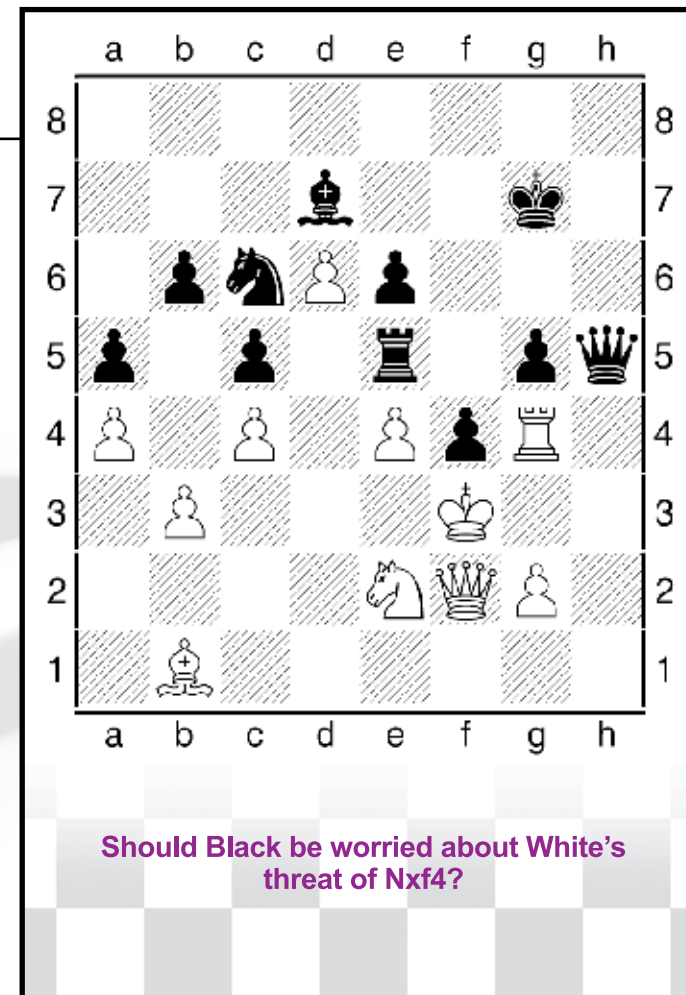
The beauty of chess is that many times it is possible to ignore our opponent's attack and instead carry out one of our own. Better yet, it may be possible to combine defense and offense, making a move that parries our opponent's threat while also creating a threat against him.

For an example, let's look at today's diagram from a game played at the Indian River County Chess Club.

It is Black's turn, and he sees that White is threatening Nxf4, winning a pawn and attacking the Black Queen on h5.

Notice that the pawn on g5 would be pinned, preventing Black from recapturing the Knight on f4. But rather than defend passively with for example ...Kh6 to remove the pin on the g5 pawn, Black, already enjoying a big advantage, played the aggressive ...Rxe4.

After Black's move, White resigned. Black's forceful move not only defended the f4 pawn, stopping Nxf4, but also threatened ...Ne5 mate the next move. If White takes the Rook with Kxe4 – stopping one mate threat – Black mates in two moves beginning with ...Qg6 check.



Humberto Cruz is a United States Chess Federation correspondence chess master and certified tournament director. He can be reached at askhumberto@aol.com.

Bridge COLUMN

THE ART OF THE SACRIFICE

BY PIETER VANBENNEKOM - BRIDGE COLUMNIST

One of the hardest things to decide in bridge is when a sacrifice is a good bid, or when it's better to let the opponents make a contract – or, ideally, just to let them go down and collect the down points for a positive score.

Flustered Flo came up against such a situation in a recent duplicate pairs tournament – and alas, made the wrong decision once again, which hurt even more because it came in the deal diagrammed below against her eternal nemesis, Smug Sam.

Flo had the South hand and her partner, Loyal Larry, was North. Smug Sam sat East and his partner, Shy Shem, was West. East-West vulnerable; East Dealer.

When Flustered Flo with the South hand ticked off on her fingers a few facts that she knew from the way the bidding had gone, she decided that she had several options.

If she passed, East-West, if they made the contract, stood to win 600 points for a vulnerable Game. If they didn't make it, she could have a plus score. If she were sure they weren't going to make it, she could double for an even bigger plus score. However, 600 points would be a lot to give up, so she might want to consider a sacrifice. Even if the opponents doubled her sacrifice and she went down 3, it would be only 500 points, so assuming they'd make 5 Diamonds, she'd still come out ahead – even at down 3. But where to sacrifice? 5 Hearts? 5 Spades even? 6 Clubs?

Five Spades is a non-starter with only a four-card suit unbid by her partner, but Flo decided she had to try a sacrifice and she couldn't go 5 Hearts with her singleton. There were some raised eyebrows at the table when Flo, who had been silent during the entire auction, suddenly opened her mouth to bid 6 Clubs! Sam promptly doubled and Flo went Down 3 for the expected minus-500 score. Still, she wasn't fazed by that result because she felt sure East-West could make 5 Diamonds, so she figured it was a good sacrifice. And actually, it wasn't such a crazy bid as it seemed at first blush.

Alas for Flo, it was not a good bid. She and Larry wound up with a bottom on that hand. Every other time the hand was played, East-West wound up in 5 Diamonds but went Down One for minus-100. None of the other N-S pairs doubled, so there was a multiple tie for first on the deal and just one bottom -- for Flo and Larry. Double would have been the ideal bid, but pass was the second best.

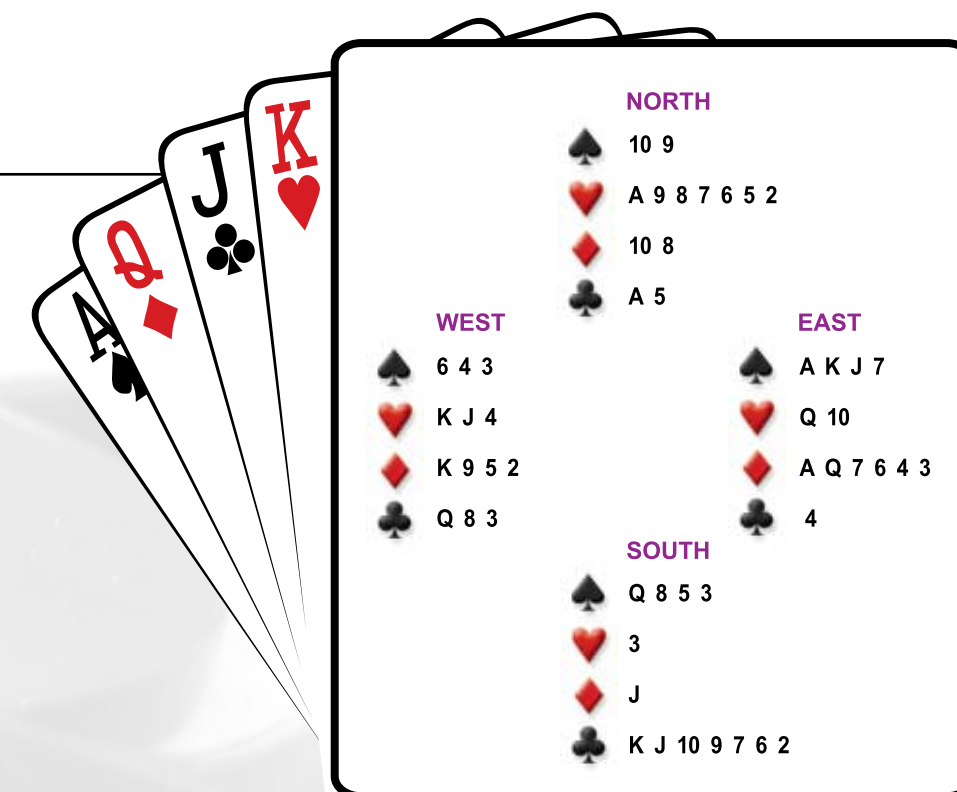
"I thought it was a good sacrifice," Flo said later as she bemoaned her bad fortune. "How could I have known that 5 Diamonds doesn't make?"

It was a rhetorical question, but Smug Sam was all too glad to provide an answer:

"Sure you could have known, from the bidding and from what you had in your hand. You have to pay attention to every bit of information at your disposal, including the knowledge who's going to play the 5-Diamond contract. Your partner overcalled 2 Hearts and had to have Heart length, probably with the Ace, plus some other high-card points in either or both Spades and Clubs. So you know that if you lead a Heart, your partner will probably take the trick with the Ace and lead a Heart back to you, giving you a ruff.

"Now as North-South you have 2 tricks right off the bat," Sam continued, "and as East I'm booked. But between your own cards as South in the black suits and North's bid, as North-South you are sure to take at least one more trick to set the contract. Knowing you get to lead your singleton Heart on the first trick makes all the difference."

"I guess you're right," concluded Flo with a sigh.



The bidding so far:

East	South	West	North
1 Diamond	Pass	1 No-Trump	2 Hearts
3 Diamonds	Pass	4 Diamonds	Pass
5 Diamonds	?	(Make the right bid for Flo as South)	

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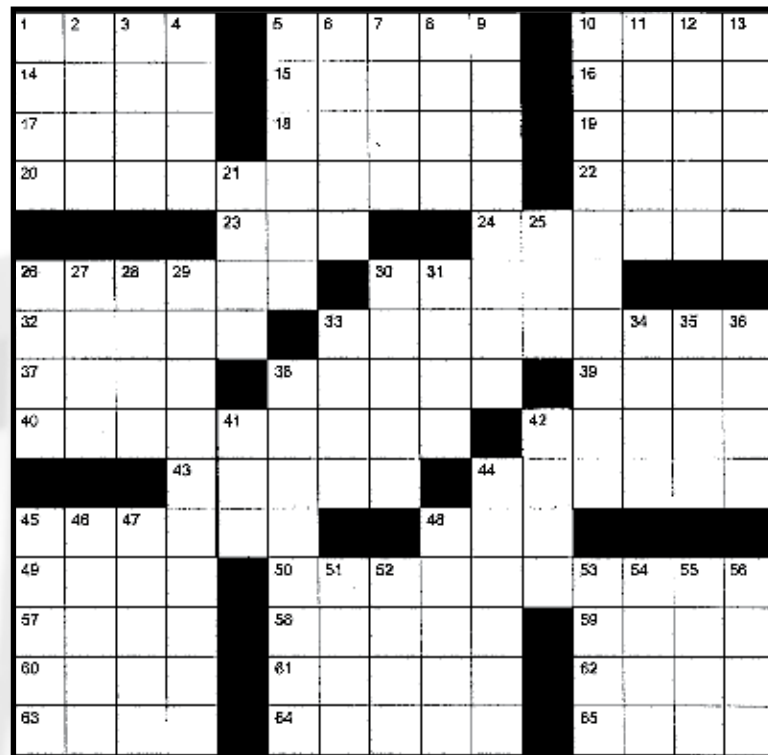
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Crossword

SOLUTIONS TO LAST ISSUE ON PAGE 83

CAP THIS



The Christian Science Monitor | By Sandra Horner | Edited by Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Gym byproduct
5 Roman market manager
10 Fire
14 St. ____: capital of Minn.
15 Important chord
16 Islands off New Guinea
17 Egg on
18 Skirt
19 Jefferson ____: capital of Mo.
20 Capital of R.I.
22 Routine
23 German article
24 Lariats
26 Capital of Colo.
30 Keep one's mouth shut
32 Medicinal plants
33 Immigrant domiciles, frequently
37 Astronauts' landing
38 Punctuation mark
39 Negatives
40 Capital of Md.
42 Begin
43 City of northern France
44 Biblical in-law and feminist writer Wolf

DOWN

- 1 Since Hector was ____
2 Songstress Vikki
3 "Les Miserables" author
4 Alt.
5 Dodger
6 Capital of Del.
7 Religious image
8 Secular
9 Senior males
10 Capital of Calif.
11 Running wild
12 Terra ____
13 Novelist Frances Parkinson

- 21 March date of note
25 Ending for solar or bar
26 Lady of Spain
27 N.C. college
28 Lunch hour
29 Corruptible states
30 Misrepresent
31 Baseball's Slaughter
33 Kind of bridge
34 Linguist Chomsky
35 Actress Garr
36 Concorde, e.g.
38 Capital of Ohio
41 Orchestra's place
42 "For pity ____"
44 Apartment sign
45 "____ man who had no. . ."
46 Pola, of the silents
47 Capital of Ore.
48 Confused
51 Mrs. Chaplin
52 Refuse, to Shakespeare
53 Branch
54 Notion
55 Ardor
56 Tear

NOTE: It's no accident that there are exactly 15 theme answers in this puzzle.

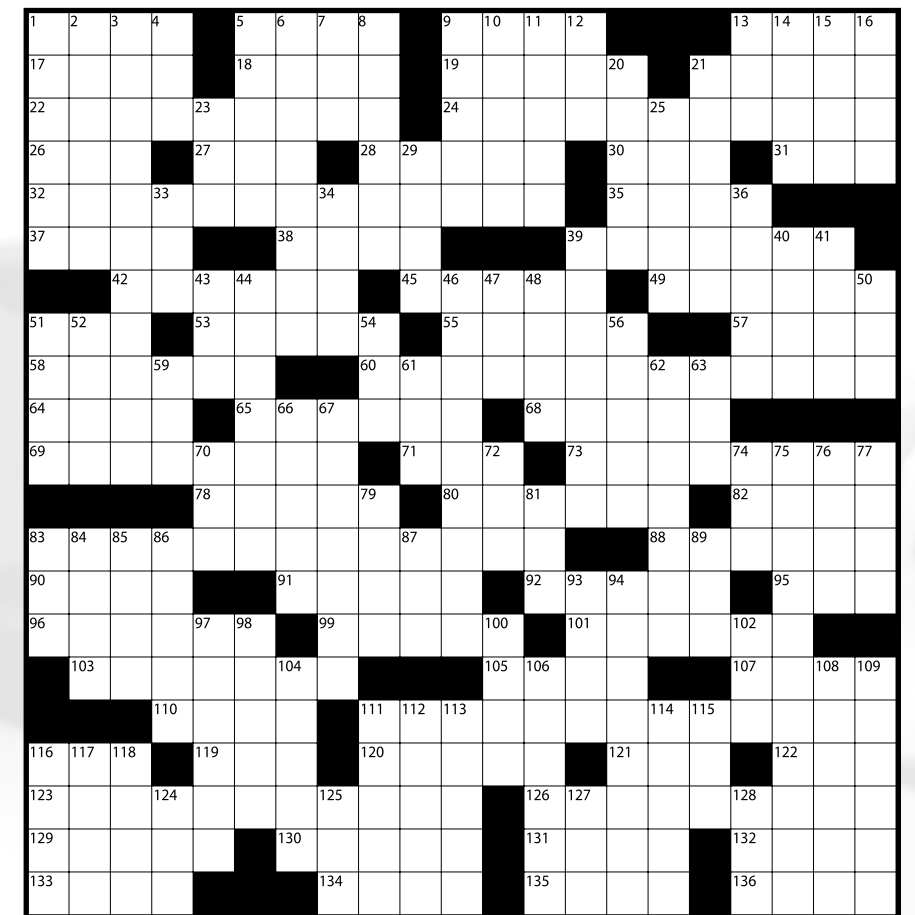
ACROSS

- 1 Egg ____
5 Virginia, *par exemple*
9 Teapot cover
13 Carpet meas.
17 Says "for her and I," e.g.
18 Bear's bedroom
19 Perfect report card
21 Flick featuring Flicka, perhaps
22 City near San Diego
24 BCS champs of 2010
26 With 110 Across, an oldies band
27 Jed's find
28 The slim picture
30 What a 3-0 game lacks
31 Sound of a slug
32 Achieve normal speed
35 Use a scythe
37 Track info
38 El ____
39 Come together?
42 "Who ____?" (phone query)
45 Nora portrayer
49 University founder Stanford
51 OH pro
53 Sneeze need
55 Bradley et al.
57 "That's ____!"
58 Concerto key
60 Good person to know on the way up
64 Rien, in Rio
65 Lusty
68 Old Dodges
69 "Here comes ____"
71 Drops on crops
73 Real
78 Blows the whistle (on)
80 Wine bottle

- 82 Strong as ____
83 Bad news for the hunted
88 Erects
90 Andy's kid
91 Unhyphenated
92 Polite denial
95 With 101 Across, a vanity case?
96 Was the head of
99 Site of ancient Greek games
101 See 95 Across
103 Poison in apple seeds
105 Wheat coat
107 Power co.
110 See 26 Across
111 Photosynthesis need
116 Pt. of speech
119 ____ hop
120 Subjects
121 Beast of burden
122 104
123 From sea to shining sea
126 Film fest town and ski resort
129 "The ____ near!"
130 Script contents
131 It's pointless
132 Nicolette on "Desperate Housewives"
133 River of souls
134 Inherited item
135 Frees (oneself of)
136 Chip movements?

DOWN

- 1 Thomas Hart Benton's Missouri birthplace
2 Flower for Nero Wolfe
3 Rockies feature
4 Govt. check issuer
5 Commercial cow
6 Out-of-control drop
7 Medical attention, e.g.
8 Rover rewards
9 Tucson sights
10 Like bieremes
11 The Congo, before
12 Popeye verb
13 Was a wallflower
14 Popular ear-cleaner
15 Tokyo's old name
16 Kid-lit sleuth
20 Turf intro
21 At stores everywhere
23 With 74 Down, a type of milk
25 "Life of Riley" character, Digger
29 Out of
33 Covert org., once
34 Regina's region: abbr.
36 Rice dish, variably
39 "Ay ____!"
40 He designed the dream sequence in Hitchcock's "Spellbound"
41 It's an OK place
43 However, for short
44 Type of hawk or hunting dog
46 "Think about it!"
47 '70s pres. monogram
48 Security org. with bombers
50 Actress Sandra
51 Common excuse
52 Beijing nanny
54 Singer Sumac
56 A ____ omission
59 Capture
61 Long-time
62 Alley target
63 Fed. agcy. since 1949
66 Engine levels
67 Hearing-aid company
70 Hwy., e.g.



BEWARE!

By Merl Reagle

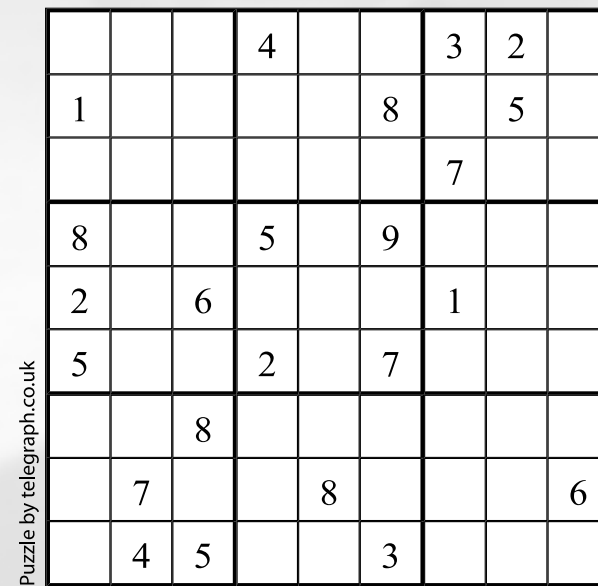
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Travel

Death Valley II: A warm coyote welcome

BY JESSICA GELT
LOS ANGELES TIMES

At 2 a.m. the coyotes began circling, yipping and howling in the darkness beyond our tepee. I gulped hard and stared at my friend Terry. Were these fearsome beasts poised to attack? Terry just laughed. "Think they'll gnaw us to death?" he asked.

We had checked in about 1 a.m. after a five-hour, after-work drive from Los Angeles. Our domicile for two nights in mid-February was one of three tepees on the grounds of China Ranch, a date farm in the tiny town of Tecopa just outside Death Valley National Park. We had found the place through a random Internet search, after efforts to book a room in the park proved fruitless.

Although the two other tepees were occupied and proprietor Cynthia Kienitz lives nearby in a rustic cottage, I was nervous. Maybe we were about to be gnawed to death.

Terry stirred the embers in the raised fireplace in the center of our dwelling, the smoke swirling upward through the opening at the top of the tepee. The room was handsomely appointed with three cozy beds, nightstands, wooden towel racks and woven rugs.

I sipped a cocktail and tried to breathe. The howling slowly subsided, followed by a profound silence that was astonishing to city ears. There is something about the desert — its vast open spaces and quiet lack of inhibition — that frees a person. This is what we had come for.

When we stepped outside to get ready for bed in the cottage's bathroom, a stone's throw from the tepee and shared with other guests, we realized what the canines' fuss was about. It was the new moon and a milky fan



Guests staying in the tepees at Cynthia's in Tecopa, Calif., can relax in hammocks and sun chairs or opt to take a guided hike through the desert just beyond the hotel.

Terry Case

of shockingly bright stars hung in the desert sky. The coyotes had been celebrating.

The next morning we awoke to the sun as it gently filtered through the top of the tepee, warming our faces. We felt especially relaxed because Tecopa has no cellphone reception, and we were already savoring our enforced shut-down.

We enjoyed a European-style breakfast that Kienitz had laid out on a long wooden table in the cottage's dining room. Guests from her other properties — a hostel and trailers that have been converted into quaint little rooms — came for breakfast and chatted about their plans for the day.

After polishing off our hard-boiled eggs, cold cuts and cheese, Terry and I set out for a short hike just beyond the property. In a few minutes the squat, green date palms of China Ranch gave way to the lonesome hills of the Mojave Desert. We scrambled into a dry

riverbed, following it past rusted midcentury sardine cans and rain-smoothed glass bottles until we reached a bullet-riddled Studebaker half-buried in decades of rigid mud.

A little unnerved, we soon wandered back to the China Ranch gift shop for a frosty date shake before making the 10-minute drive to neighboring Shoshone, where

in Shoshone before driving about 30 minutes to the Amargosa Opera House in the decaying little town of Death Valley Junction.

This town has gained a cult-like status, thanks to the eccentric performances of its famous inhabitant, a dancer and actress from New York named Marta Becket, who got a flat tire in Death Valley Junction in the 1960s and decided to stay. She owns the opera house and has been performing here ever since.

At 85, Becket no longer dances. Instead, she performs a "Sitting Down Show," which involves her sitting in a high-backed chair, switching hats and describing a musical in which she used to dance and sing. Her voice cracks, and her movements are slow, but her wit is razor-sharp, and the audience is riveted by the experience.

After the show we ate dinner at a lovely desert flower of a restaurant called Pastels Bistro on the grounds of the Tecopa Hot Springs Resort. The bistro, run by chef John Muccio and his friend Shelley Scott, is the kind of place that draws the community close to it.

Families stop by to give Muccio and Scott fresh strawberries from their garden, couples celebrate anniversaries and friends hole up for hours over hearty plates of Brazilian black beans and rice. We ate simple green salads and made-from-scratch clam chowder, followed by a slice of what very well may be the finest banana cheesecake I've ever tasted.

The next day we



Located below sea level, the area of Death Valley known as Badwater is just an hour-long drive from Tecopa. Its salty pools are a popular attraction.

order.

After our meal, it was time for a soak at the Tecopa Hot Springs Campground & Pools, one of the hot mineral baths the town is known for. Its private pools aren't fancy — just large concrete tubs that look like Jacuzzis — but the water that bubbles up from the earth is as soft as silk and full of minerals and magnesium that soothe minds and relax muscles.

The campground has less expensive public pools as well, but we were glad for the solitude while we watched through the skylight as the sun sank. Thoroughly refreshed, we stopped for a cocktail at the bustling Crowbar

packed up our things and took a leisurely ride on California 190 through Death Valley National Park and back to L.A. We stopped at the below sea-level salt flats of Badwater, which were filled after a rare rain, and the rolling sand dunes near Stovepipe Wells Village.

As we emerged from the park, our cellphones came alive with texts, e-mails and voice messages.

"Is it too late to turn around and go back?" I asked Terry.

He smiled.

"You can always shut off your phone," he said.

But we both knew that just was not the same.

Style

Flashback – Styles likely to influence Fall fashion and more

BY BOOTH MOORE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The month-long round of women's runway shows came to an end recently in Paris, where designers heralded the return of clean, classic sportswear and searched for a new definition of luxury in the fast-moving digital age. Here are six ideas and trends — spotted in New York, Milan and Paris — that are likely to influence what women wear this fall and beyond.

COLOR ME CAMEL

If there was any doubt that camel is the color of the fall season, it was cleared up by designer Hannah MacGibbon. Her Chloe collection was a study in the classic hue and every other shade of beige, from caramel to bark to bisque.

Camel is a fresh alternative to black, reflecting fashion's renewed interest in classic American-style sportswear, a trend that we saw on the runways in New York at Michael Kors, Marc Jacobs and Derek Lam, and in Milan at Gucci and Max Mara.



Camel is the color of fall 2010.

In Paris, nearly every designer had a camel coat on the runway. Chloe's MacGibbon showed sturdy man-tailored camel's hair coats alongside sleek high-waist trousers, dotted bow-front blouses or chambray shirts, and cowboy boots.

At Stella McCartney, the camel coat was sportier, more akin to an anorak. At Hermes, it was cut close to the body with a smart black leather collar. Lan-

vin's camel coat had sculpted power shoulders.

Hussein Chalayan showed a camel's hair poncho. And at Martin Margiela, camel came in the form of a classic turtleneck sweater, paired with a crimson red coat — a color combination that's definitely worth trying on at home.

CLEAN SWEEP

In just two runway show seasons, Celine designer Phoebe Philo has become fashion's new pacesetter, cutting through the last few years of ruffled and bedazzled clutter, and ushering in a new era of clean minimalism, also seen at Stella McCartney and Chloe.



Fall 2010 ushers in an era of minimalism.

Philo's sharp navy blue coat, wool A-line shift dress with deep-set leather patch pockets, glossy leather A-line skirt and crisp white shirt fastened with a collar pin look right for right now. It's a look that points to the subtleties of good design, rather than an outdated idea of in-your-face luxury.

"I wanted to bring back the purity of design, but keep it emotional." That's how Lanvin designer Alber Elbaz described his decision to turn the page on his influential ruffled and gros-grain-embellished look and focus on sharp silhouettes and clean surfaces instead.

It was also refreshing to see designers turn their attention to grown-up working women and make a genuine effort to update their wardrobes with versatile day-to-evening separates.

On the streets, the Celinification has



Balmain spread the military look combined with sharp trousers and soft dresses.

already begun. Not only are fashion editors clamoring for the clean-looking, natural-colored leather T-shirts,

tote bags and wood-block-heeled wedge sandals from Philo's spring Celine collection in stores now, Zara and H&M have their interpretations too.

This shift should also mark the end of fashion's obsession with the more-is-more 1980s, and the beginning of a 1990s redux in the spirit of Helmut Lang and Jil Sander.

MILITARY ORDER

The military look (left) has been on the radar since the spring runway season at Balmain and Louis Vuitton. And it's still marching forward for fall, building momentum as an adjunct to the masculine tailoring trend seen

in New York at Alexander Wang and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 62

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 61

Ralph Lauren.

In Paris at Dries Van Noten, utilitarian shirtdresses in navy and dark green came down the runway, alongside an anorak with embroidered sleeves, and pants with zippers or straps to cinch them at the ankles.

Yohji Yamamoto used nautical uniforms as his starting point, creating some of the most youthful and accessible pieces he's shown in a long time. Highlights included a navy blue

Designers heralded the return of clean, classic sportswear and searched for a new definition of luxury in the fast-moving digital age.

double-breasted, drop-waist coat with an uneven pleated skirt; a short bustier dress resembling a deconstructed pea coat with rows of buttons on the

bodice and angled flap pockets at the hips; and a ribbed fisherman's sweater dress.

Junya Watanabe brought grace to the military trend by marrying it with his signature Edwardian-inspired tailoring. It was all in the details, from the notched Velcro cuffs on a fatigue green hourglass-shaped jacket to the frothy crinolines peeking out from the back slit of a fitted camouflage skirt.

The camouflage print became camouflaged itself on micropleated and asymmetrically draped silk dresses, some shot through with Lurex thread, proving that this look goes way beyond what you can find at the local Army Navy store.

FUR FLYING

In a season largely defined by restraint, it was odd to see so much fur on the runways — even though companies such as Denmark-based Saga

Furs give pelts to designers for free, as long as they agree to use them in their runway designs.

These furs were not the jewel-encrusted astrakhans and broadtails that we have seen in seasons past. They were furs with a sportier edge, and some of them weren't even real.

At times, the use of fur seemed to be a defiant stand against restraint, as was the case at Rick Owens. He, more than any other designer, has changed the look of fur. And this season, he used it liberally, in draped kangaroo fur coats with the ease of sweaters and in full-length minks with helmet-like hoods.

In other cases, designers seemed to be using fur in such an over-the-top way that it had to be a joke about the industry's dependence on fur as an easy shorthand for luxury and glamour. At Martin Margiela, for example, the Russian-style fur cap was rendered so enormous, with flaps hanging down over the arms, that it looked as if it might swallow the model whole.

But the biggest news in fur on the runways was that it wasn't all real, and the fake stuff is what looked the most fresh and new.

For those anti-fur advocates out there, Nina Ricci featured faux fur trim on a slouchy mole-skin coat and soft knit cardigans. It was an even bigger surprise to see fake fur at luxury powerhouse Chanel, where the runway was a winter wonderland with real icebergs imported from Sweden.

We're not talking a little fake fur trim here and there. There was fake fur everywhere, from



Designers brought out the fur, real and faux, and faux looked better.

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the moment the curtain went up on four models, covered head to toe in the shaggy stuff, looking like friendly beasts moored on a melting iceberg. There was fake fur trim on boucle suits and fake fur waders, bloomers, muk-luk boots and puffball purses.

The "fantasy fur," as designer Karl Lagerfeld described it, fit into the show's global warming theme. (Invitations came with a sketch of a polar bear drawn by Lagerfeld himself.)

Now that Chanel is behind the animal rights cause (at least this season), it will be interesting to see if the rest of the industry follows.

KNIT WITS

For the fall, sweaters on the runway are a no-brainer. But what was different this season was the range of creativity designers brought to knitwear — both in how it was crafted and how it was styled.



Creative sweaters in crafting and style are on tap for Fall 2010.

Balenciaga's Nicolas Ghesquiere took knitwear into the future, with a knit crewneck and skirt ensemble that had raised bumps laser-punched into the surface, bringing to mind bubble wrap.

At Christian Dior, the collection's entire libertine equestrian inspiration was distilled into one fabulous cardigan coat, in creamy white cashmere laced with French blue grosgrain ribbon.

Chanel's knitwear had a more rustic feel. Sweater coats were a patchwork of earth-toned fringes and yarns, while curve-hugging sweater dresses were spun from mohair shaded with Arctic blue. For evening, dresses came

in a mélange of textured winter white knit, making the models resemble ice queens.

At Louis Vuitton, a cable knit dress was layered over a 1950s fit-and-flare dress. Junya Watanabe also showed the layered look, using a knee-length ribbed sweater to rein in a crinoline skirt.

And, building on the strength of the knitwear in Milan at Prada and Missoni, this could suggest that we are in for a return to sweater dressing.

Too bad I threw out those sweater dresses all those years ago.

CURVES AHEAD

As the debate about model size and weight rages on in fashion, several designers showed collections that celebrated a woman's curves. The more classical, rounded vision of the female form (right) was not only a comment on body politics, but also its own kind of answer to fashion's frenetic obsession with the new.

The trend appeared three weeks ago in New York at Marc Jacobs' namesake show. It made its way to Miuccia Prada's collection in Milan too, where she used a few fuller-figured models to showcase her retro designs.

In Paris at Louis Vuitton, Jacobs staged a Parisian love story set around a shooting fountain, with clothes designed with voluptuousness in mind. Fifties fit-and-flair dresses, or pinstripe wool bustier tops worn atop pleated dirndl skirts, pushed the bosom up and out.

An hourglass-shaped jacket came with crystal buttons, and a girlish popcorn knit sweater with tiny fur pompoms at the collar.

Add pointy-toed pumps with bows on top, and structured handbags embroidered with sequins and lace, and it made for a scene out of a Fred Astaire movie.

There were no sharp angles or lines at the Giles Deacon show either, where the designer worked with a silhouette based on the pronounced bust and bum of the "Mad Men" era. Bustier dresses had flying-buttress-like pleating accentuating the hips, and skirts rippled with scallop-edged layers.

At Comme des Garçons, Rei Kawakubo added bulk to the parts of the body most women spend their lives trying to slim.

Lumps and bumps of padding



Curves are celebrated, like these from Louis Vuitton.

rounded out the hips, stomachs, bust lines and backs of frock coats and tartan dresses, suggesting the body was so pumped up, clothes could barely restrain it.

Other times, placement of the padding evoked the hip panniers on dresses fashionable during the 18th

century, when a woman's status was proportional to how much space she occupied, not how little.

Was Kawakubo addressing body image as a feminist issue, the epidemic of obesity or plastic surgery? The only thing for sure is that fashion's size debate won't be ending any time soon.

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Style

Webcasts changing fashion industry

BY ROBIN GIVHAN
WASHINGTON POST

Designers like nothing more than a hot, new idea, and at the moment their favorite innovation appears to be live-streaming their runway shows over the Internet. They've been taking their lavish productions, which last only about 10 or 15 minutes, and beaming them directly to consumers in a twice-yearly marketing blitz. The decision makes perfect sense, given that a catwalk presentation can easily cost a designer \$250,000, with more lavish displays costing far more than that. It's just good economics to get those expensive images in front of as many people as possible.

Each of the fashion capitals – New York, London, Milan and Paris – has championed live-streaming. And design houses as disparate as Burberry, which is rooted in British tradition, and Dolce & Gabbana, which is rooted in sex, have embraced it. By all accounts, the shows have drawn enough traffic to make them worth the effort.

Each of the fashion capitals – New York, London, Milan and Paris – has championed live-streaming. And design houses as disparate as Burberry,

which is rooted in British tradition, and Dolce & Gabbana, which is rooted in sex, have embraced it. By all accounts, the shows have drawn enough traffic

to make them worth the effort. Indeed, the surest sign of their success is that, more often than not (sometimes in the middle of the show), the hosting Web

site crashes – brought down by too many enthusiastic fans.

The visually engaging webcasts deliver at least some of the creativity and



Style

drama of a fashion show directly to consumers. But this laudably democratic trend also makes one wonder: If everyone is in on the fashion story from the very beginning, when the first model steps out on the runway, how does that change the final narrative? Does that mean customers will ultimately be more intrigued and more invested in the clothes when they finally appear in stores? Or will they simply grow bored more quickly?

Does seeing the show – with all of its high-concept flourishes – give customers a better understanding of the designer's point of view? Or do all the theatrics just leave average viewers – as opposed to fashion savants – scratching their heads in a combination of amazement and disgust?

Once upon a time, runway audiences were populated only by retailers and fashion editors – professionals who used the shows to plan business six months down the road. Editors would extrapolate the trends from a flood of information, then assign stories and photo shoots aimed at both educating and wooing readers. Retailers used catwalk shows to inform decisions about how to stock shelves. The shows helped dictate the mood that would ultimately pervade advertising campaigns and thick, seasonal catalogues. In short, the shows were about the nuts and bolts of moving merchandise. The few customers who attended the presentations were true insiders. They were women of means who devoted a great deal of those means to fashion.

But now that the shows are instantly accessible to anyone with a computer or a mobile phone, the audience has grown and evolved. The message, however, has not. The shows still pretend that the frocks on display will eventually end up generously stocked by stores, but the reality is that merchants now rely heavily on “pre-collections” for the bulk of their merchandise. Pre-collections are more commercial and are presented in showrooms with very little fanfare in the months before runway time. Indeed, retailers have argued against pre-collections being put on the runway for fear that designers won't be able to resist making them more theatrical, more esoteric, and thus less salable.

The big-top fashion shows now have a more complex agenda. Some of them offer a designer a one-shot opportunity to tell his story. Dries Van Noten doesn't advertise, and for him, the runway images are his advertising, his look book, his marketing campaign, all rolled into one. If it's on the runway, he intends to sell it. For a brand like Balenciaga, however, the show is more important in shaping image, delivering a grand vision and allowing designer Nicolas

Ghesquière to speak in metaphors and visual poems. There's a wholly separate commercial collection back in the showroom that has been inspired by the runway pieces.

The result is that the shows are better able than ever to get consumers excited about fashion. Fashion's technology geeks are no longer reduced to clicking through still images or watching a

Live-streaming is one of many ways in which designers are using technology to connect with their customers. They've also embraced social media, from Facebook to Twitter. They've done so in pursuit of an intimate relationship with customers. The technology makes it easy to wax giddy over a pair of shoes, to fire off breezy commentary about a celebrity designer and to flame a brand over an unsatisfying purchase.

few jittery seconds of bootleg runway footage on YouTube. They are in the audience – at least virtually – serving as critic and editor themselves.

But they are also left to figure out what is real and what is merely a suggestion.

The job of retailers is thus made more difficult. The energy that an expertly produced fashion show gives off is something to behold. Audiences emerge energized and enthusiastic and ready to buy. At the end of the splendid Dolce & Gabbana presentation in Milan, for instance, one was left with an urgent itch to buy a well-tailored black jacket. Immediately! And thanks to the show's styling, in which a trousseau of lacy lingerie was on display, it wouldn't have been surprising if some folks had the urge to raid a Victoria's Secret boutique as well.

That impulse is great for the fashion industry. Except none of those clothes is available and won't be for months. When the clothes finally arrive in stores, merchants will be charged with revving up the customer all over again, hoping for a double orgasm of conspicuous desire.

Maybe the customer will bite; but

maybe that feverish need to spend will have passed, never to return. Anticipation, after all, can sometimes build up to frustration and, finally, rejection.

For years now, the fashion industry, particularly in New York, has been debating whether the shows should be more focused on consumers and their instant gratification. Since the fashion theater has been opened to the masses, perhaps the programming should cater to their speedy timetable. And instead of showing fall clothes in March, designers might want to present spring frocks. Give the consumers what they want – now!

Designer Donna Karan has been most vociferous in raising that concern. Her longtime lament has been that it doesn't make sense to sell winter coats in July and swimsuits in January. Technology has only made the fashion schedule more obviously out of sync with the lives of consumers.

Live-streaming is one of many ways in which designers are using technology to connect with their customers. They've also embraced social media, from Facebook to Twitter. They've done so in pursuit of an intimate relationship with customers. The technology makes it easy to wax giddy over a pair

of shoes, to fire off breezy commentary about a celebrity designer and to flame a brand over an unsatisfying purchase.

But is that a relationship? Or just a lazy designer's version of an old-fashioned in-store appearance? During a conversation in Milan, the Italian fashion mogul Gildo Zegna noted that while his menswear company, Ermenegildo Zegna, has a Web site, he still craves voice-to-voice communication. He recently visited the United States and traveled up and down the West Coast for just that purpose. He wants to hear his customers' concerns. He wants them to touch the fabric and breathe in the smell of cashmere. In his romantic vision of the fashion industry, tweets are like cocktail-party small talk – entertaining but unsubstantial. The ultimate goal of any design house is to make the customer feel special, to feel as though they are being heard, to feel like they are in charge. Technology has given the industry a new set of tools with which to communicate. Live-streaming may be so powerful that it forces designers to change their ways, maybe for the better. But other innovations may provide the equally valuable lesson that sometimes, the old ways were actually the best.



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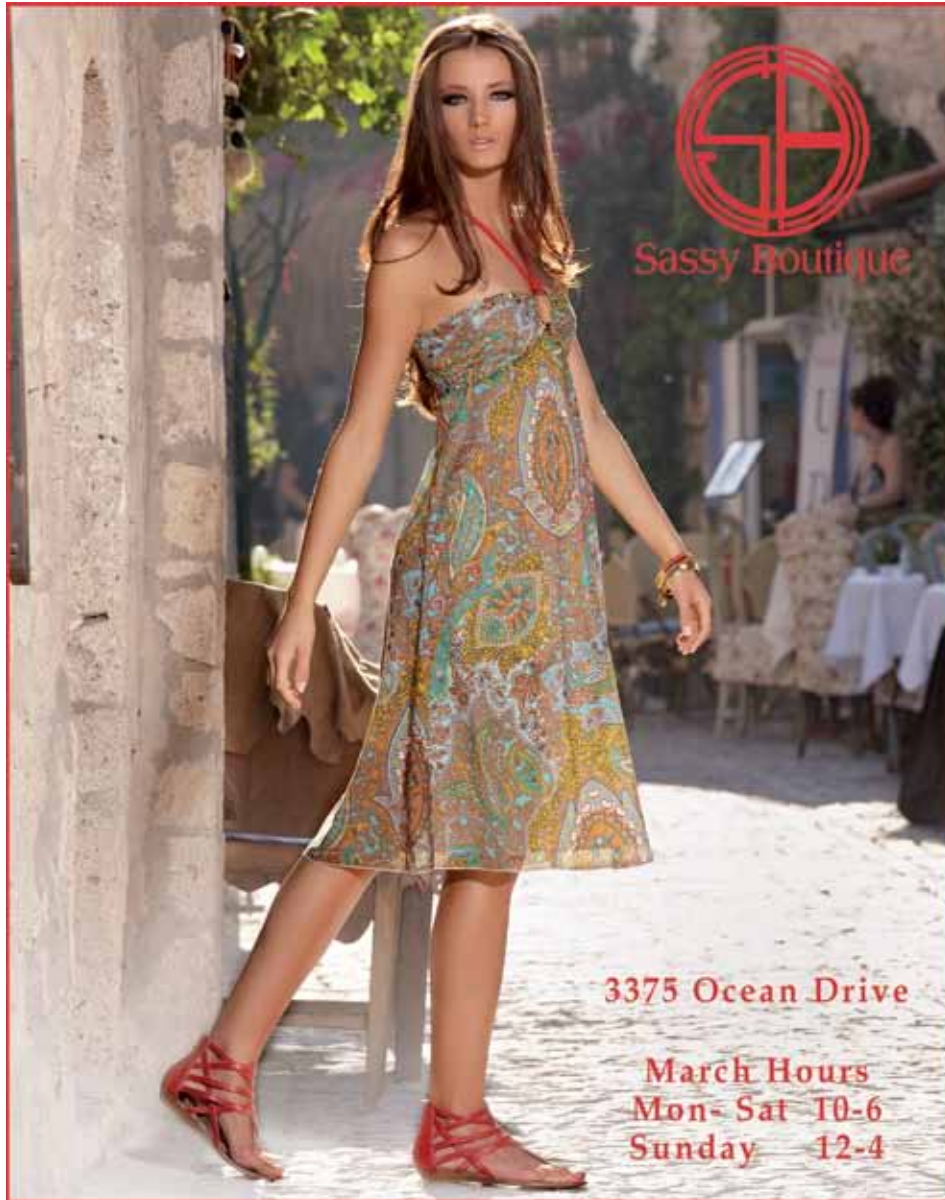
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Style

Movie style: The 'Runaways' look is all about the eyes



THE REALITY: The Runaways' Lita Ford, left, Cherie Currie, Jackie Fox, Sandy West and Joan Jett in the dressing room of the Whisky in 1977

BY MELISSA MAGSAYSAY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The men of rock 'n' roll started many major style trends throughout the '60s and '70s — think Beatles and mop tops, Sex Pistols and spikes, KISS and face paint. But women are represented on that list as well: among them, the members of the Runaways, who showed the pop culture universe of the 1970s how strong, smoky eyes and a feathered mullet could rock just as hard as the guys.

In the film "The Runaways," which opened last weekend, lead makeup artist Robin Mathews went for a mix of punk and glam-rock for Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning, who portray Joan Jett and Cherie Currie, the best-known members of the all-girl band.

"During that time period, punk rock



Costume designer Carol Beadle steered clear of any kind of modern, glossy polish. "This was a subculture," says Beadle, flipping through a binder filled with pages from old Tiger Beat and Melody Maker magazines featuring the Runaways.

and hair, which was followed by '80s glam glitter and stripy blush. It was eccentric and over the top. Nothing was subtle."



To capture the look of the '70s rockers, the film's makeup artist Robin Mathews eschewed any soft-lighted perfection when it came to getting Stewart and Fanning into character. "The Runaways were teenagers, we did that. It wasn't always dewy, beautiful skin. It was all about the eyes."

was just beginning," says Mathews. "It was all about Suzi Quatro and the Ramones' pale skin, heavy black eyeliner

to life, realistic and not glossed-over Hollywood," she says. "The Runaways were teenagers, so if we needed to add blemishes or to make them look like they had been out on the road, we did that. It wasn't always dewy, beautiful skin. It was all about the eyes."

Those strong, smoky eyes, which always seemed partially obstructed by a shard of Jett's raven hair and stood in stark contrast to Currie's platinum locks, were the center of the band's signature look. "For a small period of time, Cherie

and wore that stripy blush, but that only lasted for a little while and it always went back to the eyes," Mathews says.

To get the heavily pigmented smudgy eye, the makeup artist used eye shadows and the Smoky lash mascara from Make Up Forever. And while some of the band's onstage looks were too outlandish for today's trend-watchers, there's a way to create a smoky eye that can work for an everyday look — with an edge.

"First, apply eyeliner [pencil] to the top and bottom of the eye [lids] and smudge with a brush to cover all the little naked spots," says Mathews. She cautions that eyeliner initially appears too harsh at first, so smudging is key, especially if you want to stay true to Jett and Currie's look. "Take different shades of [dark] eye shadow and smudge on top of the eyelid and also rim the inner lid with the eye shadow."

That procedure is not authentic to the '70s, but Mathews says the smudging updates the look.

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Pets

Island Lily blossoms into \$12,000 success story



Lily models her pearls.



Lily on an outing.

BY CISSY SUMNER
COLUMNIST

This exquisite face belongs to Lily, a miniature dachshund who joined the lives of Pauline and Ben Adams in December of 2005.

Lily was the last dog adopted from a group of approximately 150 dogs rescued from a local puppy mill. Due to

her deplorable start in life, Lily has fear issues that continue to follow her. It was her nervousness that left her to last to be adopted, but first in Pauline's heart.

You might recognize Lily from her part time job as mascot and model for Ocean Drive's popular store, I'll Never Tell.

Lily is an official fundraiser for our humane society. Pauline says "I always wear pearls and decided that Lily needed her own. It's become her office attire and she

only wears them at work."

Pauline goes on to explain "I redesigned a pearl with a heart toggle necklace we carried "Inspired by Tiffany" to make Lily's necklace and after numerous customer requests...we had them manufactured in her name."

This little dog was able to give back to her rescuers. As of January 2010 (after three years of sales) Lily's Pearls have sold over 1,200 pieces and donat-



Pauline and Lily.

ed a total of \$12,000 to several humane societies for the protection of animals.

Lily is now 5 years old. Every day presents new challenges and experiences. According to Pauline, Lily comes to work every day and cozies up on one of the chairs. She often goes unnoticed, sleeping in the office or curled up in her pink blanket. All

of their customers love to see her, but Lily is always cautious who she chooses to greet. Overcoming her fears is still a work in progress, but in the last six months, Pauline feels Lily has really blossomed into a more relaxed and playful pal.

Pauline is obviously smitten with beautiful Lily.

"She's the sweetest Dog and because of her the 'Lily Pearl' fundraiser was created ... and

who would have thought ? Our special little dog is the poster child of a \$12,000 success story.

"We've been blessed with her love!"

Is your pet an Island Pet? Email Cissy Sumner, CPDT-KA at bddogtraining@bellsouth.net to nominate your pet!

YOUR PET'S HEALTH
By Dr. Randy Divine and Dr. Laura Baldwin

Back Problems in Dogs

Waking up to find that the family dog cannot stand or is suddenly dragging rear legs is every pet parent's worst nightmare. Unfortunately, this is a fairly common way that back problems are found. One of the most common disease is intervertebral disc disease. All breeds may be affected; however, dachshunds are perhaps the most commonly affected breed. Early signs include lameness, difficulty jumping, playing, or getting onto furniture, decreased activity, and pain when the back is palpated. Signs may progress to neurologic signs including conscious proprioceptive defects (conscious proprioception is the body's awareness of its position in space), CP deficits are tested by flipping the feet over to see if the animal will place their feet correctly and in an appropriate amount of time. Paresis or weakness of one set of limbs, one side of the body, or all four limbs may be present depending on the area of the spine affected. Weakness may progress to paralysis. There are two forms of intervertebral disc disease that determine how quickly the signs appear and the progression.

Type I disease more commonly affects chondrodystrophic breeds (dachshunds) and signs tend to occur more acutely and patients present with more severe signs. Type II disease tends to be a chronic, progressively worsening process. The intervertebral discs function to provide cushioning and support for the spine. In Type I disease, the spongy center of the disc dries out and is forced out causing pressure on the spinal cord. In Type II disease, the annulus fibrosus (part of the disc surrounding the nucleus pulposus) degenerates resulting in problems. Traumatic disc herniations may occur. Pets may present with signs ranging from mild ataxia and pain upon palpation of the back to severe weakness or paralysis of one set of limbs or one side of the body or all limbs depending on where the problem is. Pets can also develop a fibrocartilaginous embolism (FCE) which is a type of clot affecting the spine that causes sudden severe pain, weakness, and paralysis. Older pets develop a condition in which there is proliferation of bone on the spine called spondylosis deformans that can result in pain, neurologic deficits, and decreased activity.

The most important thing for ensuring a good prognosis is to make sure that pets get veterinary care as soon as the first signs of pain or ataxia (abnormal gait) are seen. Divine Animal Hospital will Perform a neurologic exam and a complete physical exam to rule out other causes of neurologic signs like liver or advanced kidney disease. If pets are seen early, often steroids or pain management and rest may be the only treatment required. Pets with chronic problems or paralysis may need surgery to remove disc material placing pressure on the spinal cord. Traditional pain management options are limited to Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs and narcotics; however, Divine Animal Hospital offers Acupuncture and Class IV Laser Physiotherapy for noninvasive pain relief without side effects.

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Dining

Restaurant Review

Sea Grill: Great potential, but still a work in progress



Pan-seared black grouper on a bed of rosemary hummus with a beet carpaccio and dijon fumet reduction
Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY TINA RONDEAU
COLUMNIST

While it may be one of the beachside's niftier restaurants someday, the Sea Grill in the Surf Club Hotel (formerly the Vero Beach Inn) is still a work in progress.

The setting has enormous potential: The island's largest tiki hut restaurant, overlooking the hotel's new pool, has windows on three sides that unzip on warm nights, enabling you to dine virtually alfresco while enjoying the sounds of the surf.

Alas, the weather this winter has not been particularly kind, and not only did windows generally remain zipped up, but dinner many nights had to be



The Sea Grill is the island's largest tiki hut restaurant.

riage of skate punk and refined elegance."

The wine is bottled in France by the Castel Group, but bears the tattoo-themed street wear label of fashion designer Christian Audigier, who has a licensing agreement with Bay Area graphics artist Ed Hardy. Notwithstanding the unusual label, the wine, as the Los Angeles Times observed, is "really not half bad."

The same proved true of our meals at the Sea Grill.

Our appetizers, in fact, were excellent. My husband ordered the sesame seared Ahi tuna (\$13), sesame seed encrusted Ahi tuna, seared medium rare, served with wakame salad, pickled ginger, wasabi and soy sauce. An excellent rendition.

Our companion had the soup of the day – on this occasion a cream of chicken and broccoli (\$3.95). The soup was initially brought to the table luke warm, but it came back the second time at the right temperature and drew plaudits.

I enjoyed the Sea Grill Steamers (\$12), in this case Little Neck clams (mussels are the other option) sautéed in butter and white wine with garlic and rosemary. The succulence of the clams was exceeded only by the flavor of the broth – which was soaked up with every piece of bread in sight.

For salads, I had the Caprese (\$10), an excellent treatment of freshly sliced crisp tomatoes and mozzarella garnished with basil and olive oil, and my husband had the Sea Grill house salad (\$9), a combination of red oak, frisse, mesclun, shredded carrots, tomato, cucumber and onion served with a raspberry dressing.

These are both huge salads -- too much for one, particularly if you are having an appetizer. But shared by two, either of these would be perfect. The waiter seemed dubious, but I

would encourage diners to ask for half salads.

For entrees, I had the Creole barbecued shrimp (\$13.95) over wild rice. This was a nice dish, but could have been hotter (temperature-wise, not spice-wise) when brought to the table. My husband had the fresh fish of the day – in this

case broiled dolphin (\$14.95) and our companion had the Simon and Garfunkel half-roasted chicken (\$16.95) prepared (as you might guess from the name) with parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme and served with pan juices and mashed potatoes.

Both of these latter two dishes would probably have been rated excellent had they not been so dry. Even the lemon wedges my husband requested for the fish did not turn it adequately moist – and the "pan juices" promised with the chicken were missing in action.

For dessert, we tried the Big Pine Key Lime pie (\$7) – one of the better renditions of this dish. Dinner for two with a modest bottle of wine should run under \$100 before tip.

Our waiter told us that most of those visiting the restaurant to date have been hotel guests, but if the Sea Grill is going to survive a Vero summer, it is going to need strong support from the local year-round community as well.

Potentially, this restaurant – where you can dine overlooking pool and sea – could be one of the great spots to enjoy a meal this summer. It still needs a little work, but here's hoping that the Sea Grill's potential is realized.

I welcome your comments, and encourage you to send feedback to me at tina@verobeach32963.com.

The reviewer dines anonymously at restaurants at the expense of Vero Beach 32963.

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Dining

Wine Column

After the fall: The stories of a niche wine maker

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

To paraphrase Tolstoy (poorly): All happy wineries resemble one another; each unhappy winery is unhappy in its own way.

As the economy continues to affect the wine industry, there is a prevailing feeling of dread among industry analysts and producers; a recent report by Silicon Valley Bank, a major investor in vineyard properties, suggests that as many as 10 vineyards and wineries in the Napa Valley alone are likely to be sold under distressed circumstances this year. In a survey accompanying the report, 7 percent of the region's producers considered themselves to be in dire financial shape.

Michael Havens was one of those unfortunate enough to be on the leading edge of that trend.

The story of Havens Winery is particularly disheartening. Founded as a limited partnership in 1984, the winery earned over its 25 years a stellar

reputation for Bordeaux varieties, as well as some of the more compelling Syrahs in California.

In 2006, when some of his initial investors wanted to cash out, Havens arranged for the sale of the brand and its inventory, in cash, to Billington Imports, a Virginia-based import company devoted mostly to South American wines, notably Catena in Argentina and Cousiño Macul in Chile.

The sale looked attractive at first to Havens. In addition to the infusion of cash, Havens would have access to distribution in a number of compelling new markets across the country. Better still, he got to stay on as winemaker and could maintain a founder's stake in the brand's health and well-being while being relieved of the burden of running the business.

But soon after the settlement, Billington's sales began to falter; so too did its payments to contractors and to the wineries it represented. Havens started hearing that his new employer



Merlot vines at Michael Havens' vineyard in 2005.

was late in paying its bills for winery equipment and supplies, and even for some winegrowers he'd contracted with for years.


And then came the economic downturn. By late summer 2009, Billington was out of business, and the company's assets, including a sizable stock of unsold Havens wines, were released to a Woodland Hills liquidation company, Great American Group.

For the last six months, the wines from this respected brand have flooded the retail market and Internet websites as retailers took advantage of liquidation prices. Havens watched helplessly as his wines sold for a fraction of their worth, as the reputation of his brand fell with the fortunes of Billington and his name was inevitably listed as a casualty in stories about

the economy.

That inventory, says Havens, will soon be sold out, and he's thankful that he'll no longer be getting e-mails offering steep discounts on wine he made. "I'll be free to move on to the next phase of my life," he says, adding, "It's a great relief not to be selling wine in this market right now."

And his next phase is nothing if not rejuvenating. With partner Morgan Twain-Peterson, Havens is ready to launch a small brand devoted entirely to Galician style white wines, made with native Galician varieties like Albarino, Treixadura and Godello. He's going to call it Abrente, a Gallego word meaning "the first light on a clear morning." It'd be hard to find a better image for renewal than that.



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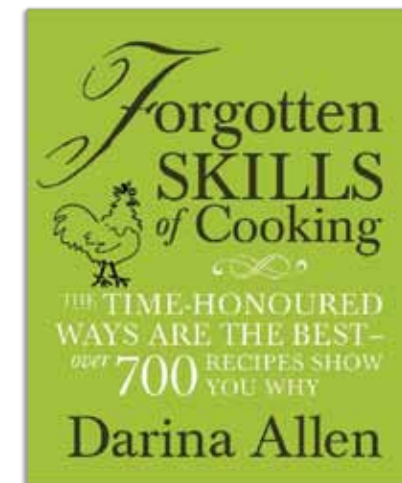
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Dining

Two chefs - one Irish, one British - get back to basics



BY BONNIE S. BENWICK
WASHINGTON POST STAFF WRITER

A 12-week course at Darina Allen's Ballymaloe Cookery School in East Cork, Ireland, costs more than \$13,000. What a treat if you can swing it, but those who plunk down \$40 for her beautiful new book will be treated to

much of what's covered.

Deserved praise has been heaped upon Allen, who founded the school 27 years ago, and on her many cookbooks. The 60-year-old grew up in an environment where butter was churned, fat was rendered from geese and ciders were put up. "Forgotten Skills of Cooking: The Time-Honored Ways Are the Best - Over 700 Recipes Show You Why" (Kyle, \$40) reconnects with that past, not for nostalgia's sake but for more practical reasons. "The path of life doesn't always run smoothly," Allen writes, "and so many confident young people who were riding the crest of a wave are suddenly forced to face the reality that they are virtually helpless in a changed situation. With oil supplies diminishing and energy prices rising, we are likely to need these skills even more in the future."

Whether or not circumstances will force a widespread return to living off the land, Allen says foods that are in season are what our bodies need at that particular time of year. So in compre-

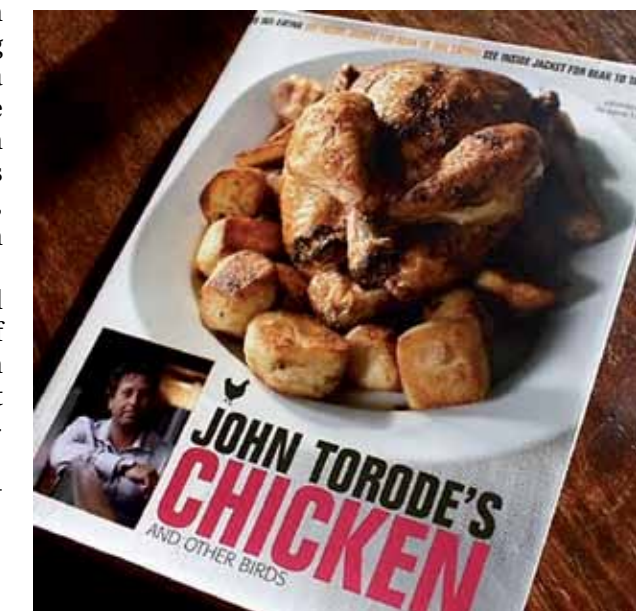
hensive fashion she dispatches how-to's that cover winter to fall. Even if you never planned to butter an egg (not what you'd imagine), cure pork, hang game, skin a flatfish, keep chickens or forage for wild nuts, greens, fruit and flowers, her descriptions and patient instruction will keep you entertained.

The dishes Allen makes at Ballymaloe might produce more smashing results because she works with ingredients from her 100-acre organic farm.

Fowl" (Firefly, 2010) "less popular in the United States than in Britain: guinea fowl, squab and partridge, plus several sets of "go-withs" such as stuffings, including a pork-with-pear recipe I'll be sure to revisit in the fall."

Torode describes this as "not a restaurant cookbook," presumably because the recipes are not demanding. But I found his portions on the generous (restaurant-like) side. His creamy curry pasta with chicken meatballs is killer good and provides a nice answer to a week-night poser: What, chicken again? Yet the number of meatballs can be cut in half and still satisfy.

His relaxed approach suggests we cook a recipe three or four times, kind of like breaking in a pair of shoes. Tips from even a first pass through the book yield sound strategies. He soaks chicken pieces in salted water before using them to make stock; it helps produce a clear, golden broth. He prefers to grill chicken breasts and saute duck breasts with the skin on, because the meat bene-



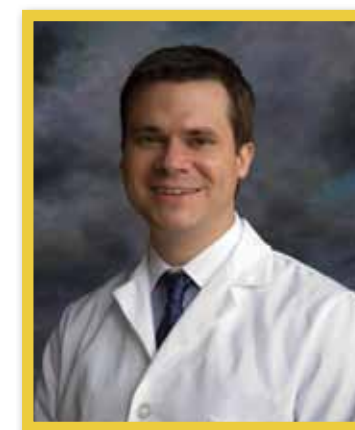
Still, the book might inspire cooks elsewhere to use the freshest, most sustainable foodstuffs they can find. At the very least, she urges us to reconsider our disposable society: Scrape the mold from a piece of cheese or the surface of a pot of jam. We can eat what's underneath and survive.

Speaking of survival, here's John Torode's take, from "Chicken & Other

fits from the self-basting fat and flavor. He treats fried chicken to the classic French treatment of frites, twice-frying for extra crispness.

And, in addition to his best recipe for roast chicken, the author offers non-daunting ways to make confit, terrine, pâté and pastrami. Finally, he lists organic poultry and game dealers by country; Legacy Manor in Boonsboro, Md. (just northwest of Frederick) is the closest to Washington.

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On Faith

When life goes awry, it's time to sing a new song



BY REV. DRs. CASEY AND BOB BAGGOTT
COLUMNISTS

Years ago a newspaper in Galveston, Texas ran a story about a woman and her parakeet, Chirpy. Chirpy was the woman's pride and joy, and he responded to her loving attentions by singing all day long. But one day, the woman decided to do a thorough cleaning of Chirpy's cage. She brought out her canister vacuum cleaner and set about vacuuming the debris from the bottom of Chirpy's cage. In the midst of this process, her phone rang. As she reached over to answer the phone, the vacuum tube tilted up a bit,

and she heard the unmistakable sound of Chirpy being sucked into the vacuum cleaner.

Immediately, the frightened woman threw down the phone and ripped open the vacuum collection bag, where she found little Chirpy, stunned but still alive. Since the bird was now covered with soot and dirt, the woman grabbed him and ran into the bathroom, held him under the faucet, and washed all the soot and dirt from his feathers. When she finished this, she saw the hair dryer sitting by the sink. She turned it on, held Chippie up in front of the blast of hot air to dry him off, then placed him back in his cage.

When her friends and family heard about poor Chirpy's mishap, they asked about how he was doing. The woman replied that Chirpy seemed to have weathered it all, unscathed. But sadly, he no longer sang. He simply sat on his perch all day and stared.

Can't we understand Chirpy's response of stunned inertia at experi-

encing this unprecedented assault? Ever felt like Chirpy? Sucked up, hosed down, and blown dry?

When we hear the national economic news, many of us could very well feel like the unfortunate bird. After all, we've been sucked up into a mess not of our own making. We've been subjected to a hosing-down in an attempt to rectify the problem. And then we have listened to blast after blast of hot air concerning how we got here and how to fix it. Frankly, it leaves us all a little stunned doesn't it, and like Chirpy, caught in a kind of inertia of uncertainty?

We may feel justified in simply sitting on our perches and staring for a time. But ultimately withdrawal, resignation, and inaction are not consistent with the messages of our faith. We are called to be people who look for possibility and engage with others in the world's renewal.

This is possible, despite trying circumstances, when we call upon our

deepest spiritual convictions. We like the way theologian, Reinhold Niebuhr, phrased his convictions: "Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope. Nothing that is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore, we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore, we must be saved by love." Faith, hope, and love.

If you've been stunned into silence by events in your life, and become songless, then we urge you to review your convictions. What does your faith teach you about the mandate to become engaged with others in solving problems? What does it say about the possibility for renewal and the hope for better things? Let's leave our perches and sing out that good news. No matter what life has dealt us, don't we all still have a song to sing?

Federal court upholds 'under God' in Pledge of Allegiance

BY MICHAEL B. FARRELL
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

An atheist activist from Sacramento failed earlier this month to convince a federal court in California that references to God in the Pledge of Allegiance and on US currency are unconstitutional endorsements of religion.

In two separate cases, Michael Newdow, who previously challenged the Pledge in a case that reached the US Supreme Court in 2004, attempted to further his long-running campaign to

strip references to God from the public domain.

In Newdow's latest case against "under God" in the Pledge, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals panel ruled, in a 2-to-1 decision, that the schoolroom routine for millions of children is not a violation of the Constitution, but a historical reflection of the Founding Fathers' beliefs that "serves to unite our vast nation."

"Not every mention of God or religion by our government or at the government's direction is a violation of the

Establishment Clause," wrote Judge Carlos Bea for the majority in the opinion.

"Without knowing the history behind these words, one might well think the phrase 'one Nation under God' could not be anything but religious," wrote Judge Bea. "History, however, shows these words have an even broader meaning, one grounded in philosophy and politics and reflecting many events of historical significance."

In Newdow's previous case against the Pledge, the US Supreme Court

ruled that the California atheist, who founded the First Amendment Church of True Science, didn't have the legal standing to bring the case on behalf of his school-age daughter since he didn't have legal custody of her. The court did not decide the constitutional question.

Newdow then re-filed the lawsuit in California along with other atheists who objected to their children reciting the Pledge. In 2005, a federal district court judge agreed that "under God" overstepped the Constitutional limits on state sanctioned religion.

St. Eds

Tennis season a winner for St. Edward's team

BY RON HOLUB
COLUMNIST

Confidence will not be in short supply for the young men playing varsity tennis for St. Edward's School when they take direct aim next month at the 2010 FHSA Class 1A team championship. On the heels of a strong second place finish behind state champion American Heritage last spring - and with the loss of only one player from the top-five singles rotation - optimism abounds, and with good reason.

The Pirates sprinted out of the gate against what has thus far been an outclassed field. They were hardly challenged in cruising to a 7-0 record through March 4, outpointing the opposition by an aggregate 43-5. A rain-out on March 12 meant that match play was not scheduled to resume until March 23.

Andrew Butz, Conner Pickering and Erik Majcher, are the number one, two and four singles players for St. Edwards and are the backbone of the team.

The defending Class 1A state singles champ, Andrew Butz, had a succinct historical perspective for the upcoming 2010 title chase.

"Freshman year we finished fifth in states, sophomore year we finished fourth," recited Butz. "Junior year we got second. So that leaves only one more option left. Hopefully we can do it this year. If the team can stay healthy and Conner and I can continue to work with the rest of the team and help them improve, we can win states. Our regular season match with American Heritage and will be a big test."

Butz and Pickering (ranked number two) are co-captains for the Pirates, numbers one and two in the singles rotation, and the top doubles team. They have clearly embraced leadership roles and strive to set a positive example with their play.

Majcher, ranked number four, said his game really prospered when he transferred to St. Ed's for his junior year. "It was a big change coming to St. Ed's after being number one at Sebastian High School," said Majcher. "I dropped down a few spots, but I get to play with my best friends. Hitting together at practice has been very good for me. We've got to practice really hard so we can bring home a win this year. We're all focused on doing that and we've all improved so much."

A minor, make that imperceptible, wrinkle was tossed in this year when a new varsity head coach was appointed



Cody Lanier receives some tennis tutelage from St. Edward's tennis team members Connor Pickering and Andrew Butz during a tennis clinic at Twin Oaks Tennis Club.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

at the school. Steve Milliman has been the Director of Transportation at the school for the past 17 years, but he graciously accepted the keys to a Rolls Royce only recently. It is fair to say that he is thoroughly pleased with the quality of the ride.

That classic vehicle would, of course, be the tennis team that Milliman inherited in mint condition, tuned to precision. In a case of outrageously propitious timing, he ascended to the position of head coach this season after one year as an assistant under Christopher Thoft-Brown, who left to accept a teaching position in his home town back in Massachusetts.

"It was a thrill for me to even be considered (for the coaching position)," Milliman said. "It's easy with this bunch of guys. I'm just basically keeping it organized."

The humble approach would fit for any coach with a singles lineup of Butz, Pickering, sophomore Harlan Swift, Majcher and senior Chris Lyons. Butz-Pickering and Swift-Macher pair off for doubles, but Milliman attempts to involve others for doubles if the match score is conducive, as it has been in the first seven outings. Eighth grader Sean Carrick actually worked his way into the number five spot before a broken arm ended his season.

"I don't have to coach these guys," Milliman continued. "I'm enjoying it. I can't take credit." The first year coach acknowledges the enormous buzz on campus. "The entire school is looking for us to do well and come back with a state championship."

Former coach Thoft-Brown stays in

and were sad to see him go," Milliman said.

Meanwhile, crunch time nears. Home matches this year shifted to the hard courts at Riverside and Butz sees that as a positive.

"Practicing and having matches on hard courts will be better training for guys like Conner and Erik when they get to college. It's also an advantage now because we have some hard hitters on the team."

The Pirates have matches at Riverside scheduled for April 7th and 8th. Then it's on to the first leg on the road to the state tournament. The district playoffs are scheduled to begin April 12th.

As Butz explained, he has seen the team make a steady climb toward the top of the heap during his tennis career at St. Ed's. He owns the state 1A singles crown from last year, but would like nothing better than to finish with a team championship. After all, it's the "only option left."



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Maundy Thursday Services ~ April 1, 2010
6:00 p.m. Supper in Community Hall ~ 6:30 p.m. Communion in Community Hall
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service with the Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary

Good Friday Vigil ~ April 2, 2010 ~ Noon until 3:00 p.m. in Grace Chapel
Ecumenical service including clergy and musicians from the community

Easter Celebration ~ April 4, 2010 ~ 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
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Living

Six beauties top Junior League tour of homes



Bobbie Garzia, Anita Bul and Lori Sulvia stand beside the pool in the coralstone facaded courtyard of the Painted Bunting home.

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY A STAFF WRITER

Six homeowners opened wide their homes to the public Saturday, March 20 during the 17th annual Junior League Tour of Homes. The six homes – two in Orchid Island, one in Indian Trails, two in Riomar and one in Seagrove, delighted dozens of visitors who purchased tickets to benefit the League's premier fundraiser.

The tour hit it big with a beautiful day to mark its fundraiser.

Here is a little more about each of the homes:

Indian Trails, the River Trails Home:

With homeowners who have traveled the world and worked in China, the home is appointed with décor from Beijing, Honk Kong, Changzhou and other exotic locals of Southeast

Asia. It has beautiful handiwork, paintings and carvings, all from China. The first time it is on the tour, it was built by Rutenberg and has been lovingly decorated.

Riomar, Painted Bunting home:

The home evokes another time and place, mainly New England, with a touch of Bahamian plantation. With a wrap-around porch and white columns, the home offers custom fur-

nishings including recycled items converted into decorative pieces. Two separate upstairs lofts provide comfort and privacy for family and guests.

The home features several doors that open to an exquisite courtyard with a pool of mixed coral stone surrounded by areas for conversation and a summer kitchen.

Orchid Island, West Indies inspiration home:

The West Indies courtyard house was built in 2001 and features high ceilings, hardwood floors, mahogany doors and elaborate crown moldings. The courtyard is the focal point of the home with tropical foliage surrounding the pool an guesthouse. The tile wall murals were bought by the owners in Portugal and installed on site by the owner. Other artwork includes tropical oils by Lionel Ogilvie and Mal Flanders.

With colors of soft yellow, red, green and blue, the home is truly a Florida paradise. It borders the Indian River Preserve.

Orchid Island, the Provencal home:

Finished in 2006, the home was designed by Harry Gandy Howle, renowned architect. The home's interior spaces have been designed and decorated by the homeowner, who is a talented artist and decorator. The home is like a work of art.

It features a grand enclosed atrium of stonework and serene furnishings, and opens to a lanai and pool.

Reclaimed antique wormy chestnut floors and beams, reclaimed stone floors and custom cabinetry blend

Living



An original pecky cypress ceiling, reclaimed red oak floors, antique furniture and an Italian chandelier with 3,904 crystals adorn the living/dining room of the Seaglass Cottage on Riomar Drive.

beautifully with one-of-a-kind woodwork and art in the home.

Riomar, Seaglass Cottage:

Located in old Riomar was originally designed in 1929 by a Cleveland architect as a four bed, four bath home with some staff quarters.

The owner and decorator brought the home back to its original glory and

updated a poolside artist cottage and guest suite.

Special features include pecky cypress ceilings, vintage crystal chandelier and original millwork.

Seagrove, the Ocean Way home:

Recently remodeled, the home instantly welcomes guests to a day at the beach with its soft soothing col-



With the help of Spectrum designer Susan Schuyler Smith, the Seagrove house was transformed from a dark cave to a bright and airy oceanfront home.



The enclosed courtyard at the West Indies inspired home in Orchid Island features a pool wrapped with tropical foliage and tile wall murals from Portugal.

ors of sand, water and sky. While the entrance level of the home is elegant and relaxing, surprises await ...an additional level is below (the home is on a small hill).

Seemingly under the sea, the lower floor offers vast space for entertaining family of all ages...with an extensive children's area.

Source: Junior League of Indian River

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Real Estate

Sea Oaks auction moves property at bargain prices

BY LISA ZAHNER
STAFF WRITER

About 200 people showed up to the sale of four condominiums and a courtyard home on the auction block at Sea Oaks Saturday. The properties, which had been listed at prices ranging from \$850,000 to \$1 million, were snatched up at bargain-basement prices of 30 to 40 cents on the dollar.

While winning bidders seemed pleased with the prices, a number of neighbors – particularly those who paid a lot more for similar units or have homes currently listed for sale with Realtors at considerably higher prices – appeared far from happy.

The 50 or so registered bidders – who had brought \$10,000 in cash or a cashier's check as good-faith admittance to bid – plus brokers, neighbors and out-of-town visitors squeezed onto a riverfront, wrap-around balcony of a second-story condo to see and hear Rick Baker call out numbers and yell "sold," with more people listening



People crowd the wraparound terrace at The Villas in Sea Oaks as the auction commences.

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

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About 200 people showed up to the sale of four condominiums and a courtyard home at Sea Oaks Saturday.

from the ground underneath or from cars parked within earshot next to the building.

Only one absolute auction was originally on the agenda – a 2,500-square foot condominium unit which opened at \$300,000 and sold for \$400,000, plus a buyer's premium of \$40,000.

Apparently encouraged by the price, Sea Oaks Developer Jacques Brion then agreed to a second absolute auction, with a fourth-floor condo selling for \$362,000 plus a 10 percent buyer's premium.

The third unit to be sold – a 3,400 square-foot, two-story courtyard

Real Estate

home with guest house – was put up for bid with an unknown reserve. But when the bidding reached \$300,000, it was announced that this price or anything higher would be accepted.

The high bidders on the final two units were left to wonder whether their bids would be accepted by Brion and his bank. Brion subsequently told us: "At the present time, four have been confirmed sold and the last one is awaiting confirmation."

The units represented the liquidation of most of the developer's remaining inventory of new construction in Sea Oaks, and Brion said Saturday's event was his first experience with selling real estate by auction.

"It worked out fine," he said.

The winners

The lucky winners had to write a check on the spot – the auction was for cash deals only – to pick up a new home or investment property.

William Suddath, a part-time Sea Oaks condo resident since 2003, purchased the courtyard home at the preserve for more space.

"I bid on the home because we found that we've been spending more time here" and less time at a home in Nashville, he said.

When asked if he thought he made a good investment at \$330,000 plus a 10 percent buyer's premium, Suddath responded, "I'll tell you in a few years."

Norman Torrison, also a Sea Oaks resident since 2003, was more exuberant about his purchase of Unit 304 for \$300,000 plus the premium.

"It's an unbelievably great deal," he said. "I like the view of the river, I live in a condo on the ocean now, but lived on the river when I first moved here and wanted to get back to the river."

A snowbird who splits his time between Vero Beach and Laverne, Minn., Torrison bid on every one of the units until he finally won his prize. He said he did not have any particular strategy.

"I've never been to a real estate auction before," he said. "The last one they had here at Sea Oaks I was playing in a tennis tournament that day so I couldn't go."

Winning bidders came from as far away as Michigan. One buyer, brought to the auction by Ron Rennick Jr., whose family's firm is a competitor of Indian River Auctions and Appraisals, wished to remain unidentified.

The lesson

Prior to the auction, Vero Beach 32963 interviewed auctioneer Baker and he said, "I think the market is the market and you can ask whatever you



Wesley Davis works the crowd for bids during auctions for four condominiums at The Villas in Sea Oaks and one courtyard home.

want to ask for a home or for land, but if it's not in the market range of what people are willing to pay, it's not going to sell."

So what do the selling prices at Saturday's auction say about the other 70 or so properties currently for sale at Sea Oaks. Perhaps that prices their

units are listed for will need to come down before they sell.

That reality was not lost on the Sea Oaks residents at the auction, as evi

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Real Estate



Rick Baker calls out for bidders during the auction of four condominiums at The Villas in Sea Oaks and a courtyard home.

denced by some long faces as a third-floor unit sold for \$300,000 plus 10 percent buyer's premium.

Realtor Bill Baysura, an associate with Dale Sorensen Real Estate, stood

in the kitchen of Unit 302 watching the bidding, making a few cell phone calls to clients asking if they wanted to get in on the action. He remarked that the sale prices might make sellers

take a good, hard look at their asking prices.

While it was a deal-making day for a few, the auction was part of a research project for some folks who are still in the "just looking" stage.

Debbie Reid of New Jersey has narrowed down the places in Florida she'd like to live to four cities – Fort Lauderdale, Naples, Fort Myers and Vero Beach. In town for a few days, she came to the auction with a friend and used the bid documents as a way to find out about local taxes, association fees and club membership options.

She's been studying these closely as she knows they can add a hefty amount onto residents' monthly expenses and she doesn't want to be stuck paying for amenities she may not use.

"That \$300,000 looks good, but Sea Oaks is known for all the extras you have to pay," she said. "When you add all that on, it's not quite as

good of a deal. You have to be careful, some places that have golf memberships that you can't get out of -- even if you're widowed and don't play golf, and I wouldn't want to get stuck with a golf membership."

Sea Oaks does not have a golf course, but it does have a tennis club with a membership fee.

In the end, Reid said she might not choose a place like Sea Oaks or several of the other club communities in Vero.

"We like Vero, but the west coast seems to be more appealing because we're big sailors and enjoy that kind of sailing," she said.

Reid's friend, Barrie Kamen, a 10-year Vero resident who lives at the Island Club's riverside community, said she was impressed with the quality of the construction and details of the Sea Oaks condos, and astounded at the sale prices at Saturday's auction.

"The prices are mind-boggling if you have cash in your pocket," she said.

Real Estate

HUD scrutinizes real estate "admin" fees

BY KENNETH R. HARNEY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Does it matter whether a real estate agent charges you a flat commission rate – say 6% – or quotes you a flat rate but adds hundreds of dollars on top of that as a separate charge labeled an "admin" or administrative fee?

A top federal housing official says it might matter a lot, especially when minimal or no separate services are performed to justify extra charges beyond the regular commission.

Helen R. Kanovsky, general counsel at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, clarified the government's position on controversial add-on fees in a recent letter to industry lawyers.

During the last several years, many brokerage companies began adding extra fees onto their commissions to generate higher revenues.

The fees came with a variety of names – "processing" and "ABC" among others – and were charged to

sellers and buyers, payable at closing.

But a U.S. District Court decision last year threw the industry into an uproar when a judge said add-on fees violate federal law when there are no specific services performed to justify the extra cost to consumers.

Though the decision directly affected only an estimated 30,000 transactions by a brokerage firm based in Alabama, the National Association of Realtors and other industry groups urged brokers and agents to reexamine their approach to pricing.

HUD, which is the agency that oversees federal consumer protections in real estate settlements across the country, never issued detailed guidance to the industry after the court decision on what's legal – and what's not – until Kanovsky's letter.

Here's what she said, in essence: Federal law does not govern how much realty brokers can charge their customers.

But Federal law does govern how brokers and agents disclose their com-

pensation to consumers.

Commissions may be quoted "using a flat fee, a percentage of the sales price, or a combination" of the two. The revised HUD-1 settlement sheet in use nationwide since Jan. 1 has item lines where the commission charges and splits can be listed.

However, Kanovsky warned that if the total charges "exceed the amount of the commission for listing and selling the home that are reflected in the real estate broker's or agent's listing agreement," then HUD has the legal power to review the extra charge "to determine whether additional services were provided" to justify the add-on.

If little or no services are performed, HUD would treat this as a violation of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act.

Another example, if a listing broker charged the buyer an administrative fee of \$250 but there was no contractual language sanctioning the charge, HUD might treat that add-on as an illegal fee.

What's the likely practical effect of HUD's clarifications?

Steve Murray, a consultant to real estate brokers and editor of Real Trends, an industry journal, said many of the largest firms tightened up their procedures on commission rates and fees after last year's district court decision.

But some smaller and mid-size firms "probably haven't gotten the word yet," Murray says.

Still other firms have agents who tack on and pocket their own extra fees on top of the broker's commission and administrative fees – a practice that Murray considers vulnerable to legal challenge.

Brokers who quote admin fees separately on top of their commissions insist that they constitute an integral part of their compensation package and are fully justified by the work provided to clients.

For example, Chris Heller of Heller Real Estate Group of Encinitas says his standard charge is 6% plus a \$695 "transaction" or administrative fee.

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Calendar

MARCH

Through March 30

Artists Guild Gallery features Muci Clemens' Reflections of Light exhibit, and Retrospective, celebrating the Guild's 20th Anniversary. 299-1234, or www.artistsguildgalleryverobeach.com.

Through March 27

SMALL is Big! Miniature juried show and sale at Gallery 14. 562-5525 or www.gallery14verobeach.com

March 25

The Love of Literacy Authors Series culminates with a Love of Literacy Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at Bent Pine Golf Club, featuring Haiti Partners co-director Kent Annan, author of Following Jesus Through the Eye of the Needle: Living Fully, Loving Dangerously. 778-2225

March 25

Day of Hope - Alzheimer's Caregiver Conference with keynote speaker Dr. Rosemary Laird presented by the Alzheimer & Parkinson Association, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Vero Beach Country Club. \$10 per person. 563-0505

March 25

Historical Society Book Social to feature Shadow Country, by Peter Matthiessen, 2 p.m. at the Hallstrom Homestead. \$15

members; \$20 non-members. 778-3435

March 25

Atlantic Classical Orchestra presents Dooley Pomo Canyon Air, Schumann Piano Concerto and Schubert Symphony #8 "Unfinished" Completed Version. 8 p.m. at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at St. Edwards School. (866) 310-7521 or www.acomusic.org.

March 25 - April 11

Riverside Theatre presents Off-Broadway's longest running musical, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, on Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

March 26

Senior Legacy Golf Tournament to benefit the Senior Resource Association, 11 a.m. at the Bent Pine Golf Course. \$150 registration; \$135 for seniors. 469-2052.

March 26

Visions of the Sea: Visions de la Mer, an evening of Art and Architecture, 6 to 9 p.m. at a beautiful Orchid Island home. Tickets \$50, to benefit the Costal Conservation Association, Florida. 492-1002,

March 26

Downtown Friday's Dancing in the Street, presented by Main Street Vero Beach on



Under threatening skies and in windy conditions golfers make their way from hole to hole as they compete in the Flamingo Fling Breast Cancer Golf Tournament at Pointe West.

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

14th Avenue in historic downtown. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free street party. www.mainstreetverobeach.org

March 26 - 27

The Saint Edward's Theatre Department presents Butterflies are Free, by Leonard Gershe, for two performances: Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts. 492-2373

March 27

The Emerson Center Speaker Series presents Jim Leher, novelist and commentator of The News Hour with Jim Lehrer. 778.5249 or www.theemerson-center.org

March 27

Childcare Resources' second annual Touch a Truck 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Indian River County Fairgrounds. 567.3202 or www.childcareresourcesir.org.

March 27

Inaugural Vero Road Rally Magnifique (VRRM) to benefit Sun-Up of Indian

River. \$250 per car includes Finish Line Party with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a race car demonstration. Finish Line only tickets are \$125. 770-6626 or www.sunupofir.org.

March 27

Cause for Paws Main Auction to benefit the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County. 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. Tickets \$100. 388-3331, Ext. 12.

March 27

Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program self-guided garden tour. (888) 842-2442 or www.opendaysprogram.org.

March 27

Tennis Marathon to benefit the Homeless Family Center. 6 p.m. to midnight at the Jungle Club and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at The Boulevard Village and Tennis Club. 321-7800

March 27

World-renowned cellist, Mike Block, will

Calendar



The California Citrus Trio perform their jazz set at the Environmental Learning Center.

perform at 7 p.m. at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center and will donate 100% of the proceeds of his concert to the Vero Beach Orchestra. 564-5537

March 27 - 28

The Garden Club of Indian River County presents "Waldo's Way" a Home Standard Flower Show at the historic and eclectic homestead of Elsebeth & Waldo Sexton. \$10 entry fee. 567 4602.

March 27 - 28

27th Annual Vero Beach Spring Boat Show at Riverside Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking and admission. 562-7922 or www.verobeachboatshow.com.

March 28

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park, Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or www.VeroBeachArtClub.org

March 28

Vero Beach Opera presents Gianni Schicchi & Suor Angelica: Stetson University productions of two one-act operas featuring their young artists, chorus and orchestra. 564-5537

APRIL

April 1 - 30

The Artists Guild Gallery presents The Florida Collection: Colors of Nature, Life and Beauty, featuring guest artist Louise Jones-Takata. Free opening reception, 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 2. 299-1234

April 4

Meet the Easter Bunny at McKee Botanical Garden and enjoy lunch at the Garden. Noon to 5 p.m. 794.0601 or www.mckeeegarden.org

April 5

Riverside Theatre's Distinguished Lecturer Series features former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

April 6

Spring Stroll Open House in the Vero Beach Downtown Dine and Design District, 5 to 9 p.m. Maps available at galleries and participating businesses in the 3D District. 562-5525.

April 7

Catwalks and Cupcakes Blue Ribbon Luncheon and Fashion Show 11 a.m. at Oak Harbor Clubhouse to benefit Hibiscus Children's Center. Tickets \$125. 978-9313 x 313

April 8

The free Emerson Center Humanities Series presents From Hard Times to Hard Rock, with Patsy West, relating the history and stories of Seminole Indian Tribes. 7 p.m. 778-5249

April 9

Opera on the River, 6:30 p.m. at a beautiful Saint Andrews Island riverfront home, with arias and light chamber music, to benefit the Cultural Council of Indian River County. Tickets \$100. 770-4857 or www.cultural-council.org.

April 9 - 10

Relay for Life of the Beaches, 6 p.m. Friday until 11 a.m. Saturday at Riverside Park to benefit the American Cancer Society of Indian River County. 562-2272

April 10

Saint Edward's School will host a 12-hour Swim-a-thon for Life, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the St. Edward's Becker Pool to benefit the American Cancer Society. Entry to swim is free; all ages encouraged. 532-5969 or 559-0607.

April 10

Sustainable Living Expo at the Vero Beach Community Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 10

All day Latin Festival with Latin music, food, film and dance, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Indian River County Fairgrounds to benefit the Sebastian Charter Junior High School and several other local charities. 321-8545

April 10

Oceanside Business Association's free beach concert series, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. along Ocean Drive

April 11

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park, Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale,



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Calendar



Storm clouds roll across the beach near the Vero Beach Pier.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or www.Vero-BeachArtClub.org

April 11

The Indian River Symphonic Association presents the Brevard Symphony Orchestra with conductor Christopher Confessore; Postcards from America theme includes pieces by Smith, Dvorak, and Grofe, and features cellist Julie Albers. 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church of Vero Beach. 778-1070

April 15

Fifth Annual Dan K. Richardson Humanitarian Banquet to benefit Gifford Youth Activity Center honors Dr. Hugh and Ann Marie McCrystal, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Cross

Catholic Church Parish Hall. \$125 per person. 794-1005 x 34

April 15

Kaleidoscope VII dinner and concert, presented by the Academy for the Performing Arts at the Community Church of Vero Beach. Free concert at 7:30 p.m.; pre-concert dinner is \$12 adults and \$6 children. 562-7265

April 16

9th Annual Holy Cross Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. Friday, April 16 at the Bent Pine Country Club (men, women and seniors) to benefit the Backpack Program. Registration \$125. 794-9965

April 16 - 17

Hibiscus Festival presented by Main

Street Vero Beach and Vero Heritage, Inc. on 14th Avenue in historic downtown. Friday, April 16 Miss Hibiscus Pageant, Saturday April 17 all day festival and evening 60's Party with Beatles Remembered band. www.mainstreet-verobeach.org

April 16-17

Overnight Florida ranch experience at Quail Creek Plantation with Audubon Warden Chop Lege, hosted by Friends of Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. \$195 members; \$225 nonmembers. 772-465-2400 ext. 559

April 16 - May 2

Disney's Mulan, Jr. at Riverside Children's Theatre. 231-6990

April 17

Windsor's private gun club, Platt Station, will host the 10th Annual Charity Shoot to benefit the Education Foundation of Indian River County. The event opens with a breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and concludes with a lunch at Noon. Participation fee is \$150; watch activities and enjoy lunch for \$35. 564-0034

April 18

In recognition of National Crime Victims Rights Week, local singers will participate in Vero Sings for the Victims, 3 p.m. at the Waxlax Theater for the Performing Arts at St. Edward's School. Tickets \$20. 231-4262

April 18

The Atlantic Schola Cantorum, joined by the Atlantic Children's Chorale, will perform the Best of the Atlantic, a joyous compilation of memorable choral selections, at 4 pm at the Community Church of Vero Beach. Tickets are \$15. 778-1070.

April 19

Ducks Unlimited annual Fabulous Hunt Feast to raise funds for Wetlands Conservation, 5:30 p.m. at the Vero Beach Country Club. Tickets are \$100. 633-3936

April 23

Cultural Council of Indian River County 2010 Laurel Awards, honoring cultural leaders in the community, will be presented at a cocktail party from 6 to 9 p.m. at Riverside Theatre. (postponed from March 19) Tickets \$50. 770-4857

April 24

Faith communities, including the Community Church, Holy Cross Catholic Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and Unity Center will gather at 8 a.m. at the Indian River Mall for assignments for the Vero Beach Second Annual Day of Service. All are invited; projects are listed on www.ircdayofservice.org.

April 24

The Vero Beach Museum of Art will present its 29th annual Children's Art

Calendar

Festival from 10 am to 4 pm throughout the Museum and outside in Riverside Park. Free event. 231-0707

April 24

The Latin themed Tumba La Casa to benefit the Children's Home Society will be held from 7 to 11:30 p.m. at Rock City Gardens, featuring live music, food and dancing. Tickets are \$100 per couple or \$60 per person. 713-1774.

MAY

May 1

2nd Annual Bounce-Tacular Family Fun Day at Riverside Park to benefit the Samaritan Center for Homeless Families. 770-3039

May 1

11th annual Pioneer Family Dinner, this year honoring the Carter family, 6:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center. Tickets \$45. 770-2263

May 2

Treasure Coast Chorale, songs of faith and inspiration, 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. Free (772) 567-4311

May 2

The 21st Annual May Pops Concert at Windsor Polo Field to benefit Indian River Medical Center Foundation features the Brevard Symphony Orchestra with conductor Christopher Confessore and Tony Award winning soloist Debbie Gravitte. Gates open at 3:30, concert at 5:30. Lawn Tickets \$25 in advance; VIP

Solutions from Games Pages in March 18th/2010 Edition, Issue 12

6	9	4	8	1	5	7	2	3
8	1	7	4	2	3	5	6	9
2	5	3	6	7	9	4	1	8
9	3	5	7	4	6	2	8	1
4	6	2	1	5	8	3	9	7
7	8	1	3	9	2	6	5	4
3	2	9	5	8	7	1	4	6
5	4	6	9	3	1	8	7	2
1	7	8	2	6	4	9	3	5

Sudoku Page 56

6	1	2	9	5	7	3	8	4
5	4	8	6	3	2	1	7	9
3	7	9	8	4	1	2	6	5
4	9	3	2	8	5	6	1	7
1	8	5	7	6	3	4	9	2
7	2	6	1	9	4	8	5	3
8	6	4	5	2	9	7	3	1
2	5	1	3	7	8	9	4	6
9	3	7	4	1	6	5	2	8

Sudoku Page 57

R	A	D	P	F	R	K	R	F	S	T	S
C	W	S	E	L	I	E	I	M	P	E	
C	H	A	N	G	E	O	N	E	S	M	I
C	I	L	I	U	W	P	E	A	R		
I	L	E	X	E	R	S	E	N	I	M	A
E	E	R		N	O	N	E	S	T	A	L
			P	O	T	O		S	A	U	R
			Q	U	A	N	A	O	U	T	F
			L	E	N	T	L	K	N	E	E
			Q	V	E	R	A	D	C	T	E
			P	A	S	G		C	A	R	O
							N	E	A	R	
			C	H	A	U	G	E	O	N	E
			D	O	G	I		P	E	A	L
			S	E	E	D		I	O	D	U

Crossword Page 56 (SHIFTING GEARS)

E	S	T	A	B	C	U	P	A	F	A	C	T	N	O	W	B	E
A	C	H	E	R	A	P	E	N	I	T	R	O		O	R	E	O
T	H	E	C	O	A	S	T	I	S	C	L	E	A	R		T	O
E	N	A		O	L	E	O		T	H	E	S	P	O	T		U
T	O	T	A	K	E		S	P	O	R	T	S		O	C	T	O
H	O	R	S	E		C	O	L	L	A	R		H	U	H		N
K	E	Y		F	I	A	T		V	I	A	S	H	T	I		S
I	L	E	X		E	R	S	E	N	I	M	A					
A	C	O	I	S	E	N		P	O	R	C	H		N	A	C	I
A	C	O	S	T	I	C	G	U	I	T	A	R					
S	O	Y		T	A	G		O	N	C	E		A	G	E		R
H	O	S	T		H	E	A	C	A	D	E	M		A	W	A	R
E	T	T	A		T	I	T		O	R	N	O		P	R		E
E	R	I	C														
A	P	R	O	N													
V	O	C															
I	S	R															
S	T	A	B	L	E												
C	C	S															
O	A	K	I	E													
F	R	E	D	S													
A	D	R	E	P													

Crossword Page 57 (SPACED OUT AT THE OSCARS)

tickets \$125. 226-4974 or visit www.maypopsinvero.com.

May 3

VNA's 20th Annual Golf-A-Thon will be held at The Moorings Club. Twelve local golf professionals tee off at sun up and play 135 holes to benefit the VNA and Hospice. .

May 7 - 8

Sixth Annual Offshore Big 3 Fishing Tournament to benefit Hibiscus Children's Center leaves from the Ft. Pierce City Marina. Captain's party 6 p.m. Friday, tournament Saturday. \$225 per boat. 978-9313 x 313

May 8

Oceanside Business Association's free beach concert series, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. along Ocean Drive.

May 13 - 23

The comedy It Runs in the Family will be performed at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. 562-8300

May 20 - 21

Riverside Children's Theatre Spring Dance Festival, 7 p.m. Tickets: \$6. 231-6990

May 22

Riverside Children's Theatre Spring Fiesta, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free event. 231-6990

May 22

RIDES, a motor sports and collector event, presented by the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce at the Indian River County Fairgrounds. 567-3491 or www.RidesExtravaganza.com

May 22

Exchange Club of Indian River Foundation's 34th Annual Blue Water Open "Dolphin Mania" Charity Fishing Tournament. 532-9375 or www.bluewateropen.org

May 31

The Senior Resource Association 5K Run/Walk, location TBA. 469-2060

JUNE

June 5

33rd Annual Tropical Night Luau to benefit the Youth Guidance Mentoring & Activities Program, 7 to 11 p.m. at the Quail Valley River Club. Tickets \$50 (\$60 after June 2). 770-5040

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River Pointe ~ 5620 N. Harbor Village Drive #201

North Harbor Village ~ 5608 N. Harbor Village Drive

St. David's Island ~ 1520 St. David's Lane

32963 Passages

NAME	AGE	SUBDIVISION	DATE
Goade, Mary	88	Sea Oaks III	3/18/2010
Flaherty, Thomas	85	John's Island	3/15/2010
Marsden, Jeanne	89	Central Beach	3/14/2010
Christy, F. Leonard	91	River Mews Condominiums	3/11/2010
Lideen, Mildred	89	Castaway Dunes	3/6/2010
Marriott, Phillip	73	Seagrove	3/5/2010
Gillick, Anne	92	Coquina Place	3/5/2010
Cummings, Charles	95	John's Island	2/28/2010
Ehlinger, John	92	Indian River Shores	2/27/2010
Byers, G. Ellsworth	92	Central Beach	2/24/2010
Yagobi, Ray	74	Central Beach	2/20/2010
McBride, Thomas	57	Treasure Cove	2/20/2010
Parks, Lewis	95	The Moorings	2/19/2010
Brown, Catherine	82	John's Island	2/19/2010

At your request, we now will provide an updated list each week of island residents who have passed away during the past month. If you know of seasonal residents who passed while out-of-town, we would appreciate being informed so we can include them in this list. Please email this information to passages@verobeach32963.com.

Vero Beach 32963 / March 25, 2010

Page 85

Featured Real Estate Sales on Barrier Island

Real Estate

Here are some of the top recent barrier island sales

Subdivision: Central Beach, Address: 825 Hibiscus Lane



Listing Date: January 21, 2010
Original Price: \$399,999
Sold: March 16, 2010
Selling Price: \$300,000
Listing Agent: Al Benkert
Vero Beachside Sales - Rentals
Seller's Agent: Lenora Mustapick
Vero Beachside Sales - Rentals

Subdivision: Ocean Club, Address: 4450 Highway A1A, #305



Listing Date: March 13, 2009
Original Price: \$319,000
Sold: March 12, 2010
Selling Price: \$240,000
Listing Agent: Cheryl Burge
Norris & Company
Seller's Agent: Al Benkert
Vero Beachside Sales - Rentals

Subdiv.: Sea Oaks, Address: 1255 Winding Oaks CR E, #603



Listing Date: August 19, 2007
Original Price: \$305,000
Sold: March 15, 2010
Selling Price: \$184,000
Listing Agent: Darrow Jackson
Dale Sorensen Real Estate-
Seller's Agent: Scott Reynolds
Dale Sorensen Real Estate

Subdiv.: Royale Riviera, Address: 935 E. Causeway Blvd, #109



Listing Date: December 26, 2009
Original Price: \$174,800
Sold: March 16, 2010
Selling Price: \$165,000
Listing Agent: Andy Van Os
Compass Point Real Estate
Seller's Agent: Cali Bergandi
Weichert Realtors Hallmark

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This directory gives small business people eager to provide services to the beachside community an opportunity to make themselves known to island readers at an affordable cost. This is the only service directory mailed each week during season to all 11,000+ homes on the Vero Beach barrier island. If you are interested in a listing in the Vero Beach 32963 Service Directory, please contact marketing representative Martine Fecteau at martine@verobeach32963.com or call 772.696.2004.

Real Estate

Real Estate Sales on the Barrier Island: March 11 to March 17



Our featured barrier island sale this week is a home on the ocean side of A1A in Bermuda Bay.

The 12-year-old residence, located at 220 Bermuda Bay Lane, was listed in April 2008 with an asking price of \$1.349 million.

The price was subsequently dropped to \$1.295 million. The sale closed on March 15th for \$1.1 million.

The seller of the home was represented by Barbara McCarthy and Jenn Matesic of Dale Sorensen Real Estate. The purchaser was represented by Beverly Pulling of Treasure Coast Sotheby's.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES AND LOTS					
SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
BERMUDA BAY	220 BERMUDA BAY LANE	4/15/2008	\$ 1,349,000	3/15/2010	\$ 1,100,000
TOWN & BEACH ESTATES	825 HIBISCUS LN	1/21/2010	\$ 399,999	3/16/2010	\$ 300,000
TOWNHOMES, VILLAS AND CONDOS					
SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
OCEAN CLUB	4450 HIGHWAY A1A #305	3/13/2009	\$ 319,000	3/12/2010	\$ 240,000
ROYALE RIVIERA	935 CAUSEWAY BL E, #109	12/26/2009	\$ 174,800	3/16/2010	\$ 165,000
SEA OAKS	1255 WINDING OAKS CR E., #603	8/19/2007	\$ 305,000	3/15/2010	\$ 184,000

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70 BEACHSIDE DR, #201—2,242 A/C SQ. FT.
Corner 3BR/3BA Ocean Club residence with designer finishes, professional appliances and wraparound oceanfront terrace. **\$1,295,000**



429 INDIES DRIVE—PRESERVE ESTATE
Elegant 4BR or 3BR/Office/4.5BA residence enjoys a private preserve setting with an oversized heated pool & spa. **\$1,695,000**



80 CLUBHOUSE COURT—GOLF COTTAGE
3BR/3BA golf cottage on corner homesite just steps from the beautiful Orchid Island Golf Club. **\$975,000 (Furn. Avail.)**



20 BEACHSIDE DR, #102—3,810 A/C SQ. FT.
Pristine 3BR/Study/4BA residence enjoys southern exposure, wraparound stone terrace with summer kitchen & majestic ocean views. **\$2,090,000**



547 WHITE PELICAN CIR—PRESERVE ESTATE
3BR/Study/3.5BA residence on estate-size home-site enjoys scenic views and Intracoastal access via kayak/canoe. **\$1,775,000**



945 ORCHID PT WAY—COURTYARD LIVING
4BR/4.5BA residence includes separate 2-story cabana and oversized, lushly landscaped courtyard. **\$1,595,000**



516 WHITE PELICAN CIRCLE—GOLF ESTATE
Charming 3BR/Office/4.5BA estate with exquisite details, spectacular outdoor area with pool & spa. Panoramic golf views. **\$1,950,000**



602 HERON POINT COURT—GOLF ESTATE
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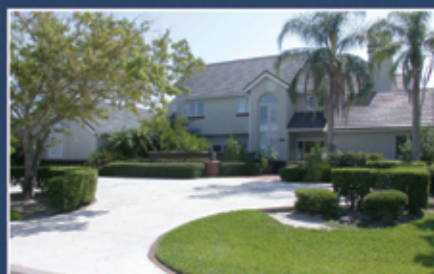
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