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32963 Insider

What does Bob Stork have against Scott?

What has gotten into Bob Stork, who in recent weeks has ponied up \$100,000 for attack ads against Republican gubernatorial candidate Rick Scott?

"I wouldn't say it's anything against Rick Scott, but for (Atty. Gen.) Bill McCollum," said Stork, CEO of Vero-based Communications International.

Stork has made political contributions to Republicans in the past, but nothing like the twin \$50,000 donations two of his smaller companies – RC Stork Air and RC Stork Properties -- made to the Florida First Initiative advocacy committee.

Stork said he decided funding the ads was a good way of helping McCollum.

Asked if 527 organizations and the attack ads they run are a positive thing for politics, Stork said: "I see things as very black and white. If it's legal, I'll do it. If it's not, I won't."

Hatch, as a launderer, said to be cleaning up

While awaiting his trial for theft, racketeering and money laundering, Ira C. Hatch did do some work to help pay for his keep. Hatch took on the task of washing and drying laundry generated by the 500+ overnight guests at the jail.

Sheriff Deryl Loar said: "He does a very good job on the laundry. Our laundry has never been so clean."

Rare armed robbery jolts Ocean Drive



Vero police arrive at Ocean Drive jewelry store minutes after Saturday armed robbery.

2nd jewelry store hit in four months has beachside merchants concerned

BY IAN M. LOVE
STAFF WRITER

The brazen lunchtime armed robbery of an Ocean Drive store last Saturday – the first beachside robbery in memory in which the shopkeeper was attacked by the invaders and stunned repeatedly with a Taser gun – reportedly netted the thieves as much as \$100,000 in jewelry and has left the oceanside

business community more than a bit shaken.

Up and down Ocean Drive this week, shop owners were reviewing security measures in light of the robbery of Lou Wilson Fine Jewelry, where two daring robbers – described as white males between 25 and 35 years of age – entered the store not long after the end of the Saturday farmer's market across the street and confront-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

FP&L and Vero: Hard to tell what they are saying in private

BY LISA ZAHNER
STAFF WRITER

A week after a flurry of reports involving what Florida Power & Light may or may not offer -- and may or may not

do -- in regard to purchasing the Vero Beach Electric Utility, the situation appears more confused than ever.

That's largely because FP&L – perhaps realizing that no two members of the

current dysfunctional City Council or city officials are in agreement on how to proceed – is being ultra cautious in its public comments about what it is saying to any of them privately, and what, if anything,

Vero Beach customers stand to gain from an FP&L deal.

Councilman Brian Heady was among a few of the elected city leaders to meet privately with three executives

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Beachland's red tags: Not to worry

BY DEBBIE CARSON
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of oaks, palms and other trees that surround Beachland Elementary School have been marked with red bands – an ominous sign that a number of parents feared might mean that the island's only public elementary school was about to

lose much of its lush foliage in preparation for a possible future expansion.

But not to worry – at least not yet. School district officials said the tags only indicate that a tree has been measured, and its size and location entered on a map, as a preliminary step in planning how the school might

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Beachland Elementary principal Carol Wilson

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

July 22, 2010

Volume 3, Issue 25

Newsstand Price \$1.00

News 1-8
Arts 17-20
Books 35-37
Calendar 59
Dining 52-55
Editorial 30

Faith 45
Games 41-43
Health 21-24
Insight 25-44
Passages 60
People 9-16

Pets 40
Real Estate 56-58
St. Ed's 34
Style 46-51
Travel 38-39
Wine 53

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**Riverside kids put to
test in production of
'Superstar.' Page 18**

FP&L and Vero

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from the power behemoth on July 14 to preview the presentation made public at Tuesday's special call meeting.

According to him, FP&L will need to give the city enough to pay off the bonds, to fund any penalty it might owe to the Orlando Utilities Commission and give Vero customers FP&L rates.

"I told (FP&L) that unless they do those things, I don't want FP&L," Heady said.

Heady asked lots of questions in his sit-down with the utility's offi-

cials – outside the watchful eye of City Manager Jim Gabbard – and got much more than the summary prepared for the public meeting.

Shortly after, Heady notified the press of his findings.

FP&L and City Hall quickly backed away from Heady's claims, infusing the talks with uncertainty.

Mayor Kevin Sawnick said he received none of the assurances that Heady said he heard. Sawnick also didn't detail any pointed questions that he'd asked of FP&L. Sawnick said no new information was offered last week, that his meeting repeated points made in June when he traveled to Juno Beach to FP&L offices.

Heady gone rogue, and public

A memo from City Manager Jim Gabbard written on July 15 indicates Gabbard was unaware that FP&L External Affairs Manager Amy Brunjes and her colleagues were going to meet with Councilman Heady.

"I am sorry that I did not get a chance to say hello while you were here. I had intended to come in at the conclusion of the meetings and when I visited the meeting room you had departed. I learned later that you were in Mr. Heady's office. I trust the meetings went well."

After news stories hit local online news sites, there was a scramble.

An email sent by FP&L at 9:08 p.m. asked for Gabbard's help in contacting Heady:

"I have been trying to get in touch with Commissioner Heady since our meeting yesterday, via messages with Rita at City Hall and via email. Is there another number I can reach him? Or if you see him, I would appreciate it if you could give him the message to call me on my cell," asked Brunjes.

The day after the memo, Heady participated in a press conference at the office of ousted Vero Councilman Charlie Wilson about the headway made on the efforts to get the City of Vero Beach out of the electric business.

Utility activist and CPA Glenn Heran also participated in that press conference. He said as long as the offer from FP&L is greater than zero, that it would be a good offer. Heran also said that the Florida Public Service Commission would require that FP&L strike a fair deal for the city and for current FP&L customers.

"I can't imagine that they didn't tell Brian the things that he said they told him," Heran said. "But I think they couched all of it by saying that these are goals that we aim to achieve, goals that we don't know we will be able to achieve."

Heady said he contacted Brunjes on Friday, the day after the press conference, and that she was concerned over the public perception of the comments he made in the press.

"She said she did not want people to misunderstand and to think that FP&L had negotiated a deal with me," Heady said.

"They did not say what they would be offering the city or for sure what they would be doing and they did not say that they would be giving us FP&L rates," Sawnick said.

"FP&L said they would be putting out a press release to clear everything up and to say what would be done at the meeting," Mayor Sawnick said.

There was no press release, only a July 16 letter from FP&L External Affairs Manager Amy Brunjes to Sawnick stating what the meeting would and would not accomplish.

"I want to make it clear what we will not be addressing in our presentation. We will not announce any decision to purchase the City's electric utility system because we do not know yet. We will not make any determination of what the system is worth, and we will not discuss any numbers or rates because we do not know yet."

Brunjes, when contacted to clear up the apparent discrepancy, said she did not want to be quoted about what was or was not said in the meetings with Vero elected officials. Brunjes said Tuesday's meeting would stand for itself, that it would reflect the pre-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Vero Beach 32963 / July 22, 2010

Vero Beach 32963 / July 22, 2010

Beachland's trees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

be expanded to address a growing overcrowding situation.

Decisions on which trees may be removed – if any – will come later.

"Nobody's coming in with bulldozers and chainsaws," said Beachland Elementary School Principal Carol Wilson.

"All we've done is gather information," added Susan Olson, Indian River County School District's director of facilities planning and construction. While she noted that the Beachland campus has limited space for the expansion, Olson said she is optimistic that it will not be necessary to remove the trees to meet the school's needs.

"We think we can work around them," she said.

Any expansion to be done at the school could be a few years out, as it would have to go through the planning and design processes and then be added to the district's five-year capital improvements plans for budgeting, she said.

One Beachland Elementary School father of three boys brought his concerns about the potential removal of the trees to the Indian River County School Board, asking them to consider the importance of the trees.

"These woods are the last remaining hardwood hammock you have on the island," Kim Pickering said, adding that you have to drive seven miles north or south to find such habitat.

"We can always build schools," he told a recent board meeting. "We can always build roads and parking lots. But you can't build what's out there."

Beachland Principal Wilson, who has completed eight years at the school and starts her ninth this fall, said she understands parents' and the public's protective feelings toward the trees that surround the school.

"This campus is unique," Wilson said, explaining that it boasts 500 species of plants. "We are all about the environment and preserving certain species. We certainly don't want to see this changed."

Wilson has gone through at least one spate of tree removals on campus and fielded upset calls and comments from members of the general public when she had to relocate playground equipment to make room for new concretables - pre-fabricated concrete classroom structures.

"One person was particularly angry," Wilson recalled. That person told the principal the trees are the reason people move here to Vero Beach – for the beauty. Wilson said that while she agreed the beauty does attract people to the area, when that happens, they tend to bring their children, who then have to attend school.

Built in 1954, Beachland has seen

its share of growth over the decades. In recent years, that growth has been small but steady. However, last year, the school experienced an unanticipated spike in student population – pushing the school over its capacity.

Last fall, 50 new students enrolled at the elementary school, several coming from St. Edward's Lower School as a result of the private school's uncertain future and concern over a merging its lower and upper campuses.

"St. Ed's does play into that a little bit," Wilson said.

Other factors have included a decrease in real estate prices on the island, allowing some mainland families the opportunity to buy homes on the island and send their children to Beachland, which is rated A+ under Florida's grading system.

While Beachland Elementary does serve the entire barrier island, it also draws students from Gifford and The Palms, an apartment complex off Indian River Boulevard and 12th Street.

Last year's school population was at 590 students and is expected to be ap-

proximately that again this year, said Wilson. The school's capacity is approximately 555 students.

Along with adding portables and concretables to provide instructional space, school officials are trying to address lunchtime service.

"It's hard to get everybody in and out in a reasonable time" at lunchtime, Wilson. Though the school's 53-year-old cafeteria has been renovated over the years, it has not been expanded to handle the growing student population.

On campus

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

700 Beach Road, #252 : John's Island



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Armed robbery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed the owner, Wilson.

As Wilson attempted to greet them, he was immediately hit with an M26 Taser (the literature for which describes it as “the first system short of lethal force that could truly stop aggressive, focused combatants”), which was then cycled two more times.

“Your muscles just all start to quiver and the third shot dropped me,” Wilson said. “I guess they pulled the darts, and they half-carried me and half-pulled me to the safe.”

Wilson said he told the robbers, one blonde and the other dark-haired, that he had insurance and to take what they wanted. As the blonde robber ransacked the safe of rings, pendants and diamonds that Wilson estimates were worth as much as \$100,000, customer Lewis Campbell attempted to enter the store.

The thieves had turned the sign around to read the store was closed, and as Campbell tried to enter, he was waved away by Wilson. One of the thieves noticed the interaction, and Wilson informed them he had just talked to Campbell and the customer knew the store was supposed to be open.

As the bandits fled, carrying their loot in a white pillowcase, Wilson said the



Police investigate the scene of the robbery at Lou Wilson Fine Jewellery on Ocean Drive.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

dark-haired robber said, “I am sorry, sir. Times are tough. We need the money.”

The robbery marked the second time in four months that an oceanside jewelry store had been hit by robbers. On March 22, Leigh Jewelers was victimized by a white male in his 20s who dashed out of the Ocean Drive store with a ring valued at \$29,750 and jumped into a waiting car. And though nothing was taken, police

were dispatched in April at 4:15 a.m. to check the back door of WM Dori jewelry store after an alarm went off.

Mark Leigh of Leigh Jewelers instituted use of the buzzer system after his store was robbed. The front door remains locked, and a sales person has to buzz a customer in.

“I hate it,” Leigh said. “I have had the buzzer system for 20 years and never used it until that happened.”

Leigh added that he and his staff have a host of security measures in place, including code words they use if they see something suspicious on the floor.

“You have to be on guard all the time,” he said. “I think this is just a sign of the times, we’ve had three incidents in the last four months all targeted at jewelry stores. Times are tough and Vero Beach has gained a reputation as a place for having some disposable income. I think that has led some people to target us.”

“You have to think of it as a sign of the times,” agreed Seacoast National Bank Senior Branch Manager Sandra Singer, commenting on the Saturday heist. “We all have to be careful and watch who comes in through the door, and if anything does happen, we need to follow procedures and everything will be fine.”

“When a 25-year-old kid comes in and starts asking to see \$50,000 watches, you need to be ready,” another jeweler who wanted to remain anonymous said. The jeweler said among the security measures he employs are no fewer than nine panic buttons which can send a silent alarm to police.

Spokesman John Morrison of the Vero Beach Police Department said he would have to check the records, but it was the first beachside armed robbery of a business he could recall.

Wilson, who has been in the jewelry business in Vero Beach for 15 years, estimated the entire episode took about three minutes. For added security, he

said he now will keep his door locked during business hours and buzz customers in after he has looked them over.

“It wouldn’t stop somebody from a smash-and-grab, but you can check who is going into your store,” he said. “I don’t like it, but these guys didn’t look right with their dark glasses and hats and it would have stopped them from getting into the store.”

Leigh said he also plans to beef up his store security and is upgrading his surveillance system to include digital video, photo and sound to combat the typically grainy, silent renditions that older systems produce.

One thing he said he would like to see is merchants banding together to help one another after events like the Wilson robbery occur.

“After our incident, I called all the jewelers in town to let them know what had happened,” he said. “I’d like to see us get together, and as we become less isolated from these things, work to have our own network of merchants so we all can know what is going on.”

Officer Morrison said Monday the Vero Beach police were actively investigating the robbery, and declined to speculate as to whether the two robberies might be linked, or if the suspects were locals or out-of-towners.

The first suspect was described as a white male between 25-35 years of age, between 5-foot-10 and 6-2, an average build with dark brown hair and possibly with a goatee. At the time of the robbery he was wearing a straw hat, dark colored button down shirt, light colored shorts and light colored sneakers.

The other suspect was listed as a white male between 25-35 years of age, between 5-8 and 6-foot, a stocky build, blonde with a scruffy beard. At the time of the robbery he was wearing a dark-colored Hurley baseball cap, a Hawaiian palm tree button down shirt, tan cargo shorts and dark-colored Converse sneakers.

Beachland’s trees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

traffic is also a consideration in planning changes to the site. Both Olson and Wilson said that teachers have to hold some students in their classrooms at the end of the day so they

can wait for their bus. Wilson said the current bus loop and its orientation is not working well for the bus drivers, who have to take Mockingbird Drive to make the turn into the school campus.

“It creates a gridlock,” Olson said. Island resident and Beachland dad

Pickering told the school board that the district should use the existing underbrush for any paving it needs for transportation needs and not remove the trees.

“I know this is a difficult challenge,” Pickering said, “but I think it’s really worth the effort for our children and

their grandchildren.”

Olson added that while she and the district are sensitive to the issue of removing trees, everyone needs to remember that, at the end of the day, they are talking about a school site.

“Kids get one chance to go to school,” Olson said.

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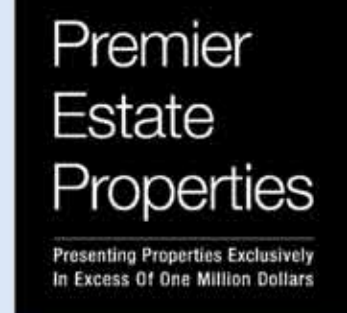
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Vero Beach 32963 / July 22, 2010

FP&L and Vero

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

liminary data FP&L had collected.

FP&L Spokesperson Jackie Anderson went a little further in helping clear up the two different interpretations of the preliminary data offered by her colleagues to members of the Vero City Council.

"The information that was provided was based on assumptions, we made assumptions based on the data we received and on public record and we've done a preliminary analysis based on these assumptions," Anderson said. "That's part of what we're doing in getting the city to bless the preliminary analysis so we can move to the next step."

When FP&L came to the table with the city originally, the company said it would determine if there were any major obstacles – legally or financially – to a potential purchase of the system. Anderson said FP&L is still in the process of determining whether or not those obstacles exist.

"We have not gone to the level of confirming those assumptions," An-

derson said. "The people doing the analysis have not yet contacted anyone from OUC or from the Florida Municipal Power Agency."

The city has a 20-year, \$20 billion contract with OUC for power and also holds rights to purchase electricity from the Stanton 1 and 2 coal plants and the St. Lucie Nuclear Plant through a contractual arrangement with the FMPA. Those legal entanglements would need to be settled somehow prior to a sale of part or all of the system.

Councilman Ken Daige said he did not meet with FP&L in the pre-meeting meetings because the sessions were not in the sunshine. He was disappointed that the handouts used in the meeting were not placed into public record and that there was no tape recording of Heady's or anyone else's meeting.

"We agreed to a public meeting and to do all of this in public, and that's why I did not go to the private meeting," Daige said. "As far as I'm concerned, what we had agreed to had not changed, it had not come back to the council to change it."

After the Hatch plea, what's next?

BY LISA ZAHNER
STAFF WRITER

The surprise plea bargain which ended the eight-week trial of disbarred attorney Ira C. Hatch appears to be a pragmatic decision by the State Attorney's Office who feared endless appeals from Hatch and his Viera attorney.

State Attorney Bruce Colton's office has been accused of committing a major flinch for not giving the jury a chance to come up with a verdict. We now know that the verdict would have been "guilty" on at least 20 of the 45 counts, including the racketeering and money laundering charges.

But with the deal, most legal observers believe Hatch will be sentenced to 30 years in prison, minus the 30 months he's already served, making him about 90 years old upon release.

The plea deal also tidies up the case and takes Hatch's right to appeal the charge – but not the eventual sentence -- off the table. For the victims, it allows the many pending civil lawsuits to go forward.

How it will play in the annals of Vero Beach history will largely depend upon the sentence handed down by Judge James Midelis on Aug. 25.

Plea bargain negotiations

Negotiations for a plea began in earnest the morning of Monday, July 12 when Defense Attorney Gregory Eisenmenger approached Assistant

State Attorney Lev Evans with an offer a far cry from his previous ones, which ranged from probation to 10 years in prison.

"This was the first serious plea offer that they had given us," said Assistant State Attorney Ryan Butler.

"They had made offers all along, they had hoped to plea the second week of the trial, the first week of testimony with a maximum of 10 years," he said, noting that 10 years was not acceptable for the charges Hatch was facing in the jury trial.

After spending nearly three years working with the hundreds of victims in the case, Butler and Evans said they were looking for justice for the victims -- justice that matched the gravity of the crimes.

"I see this with every case where there is theft involved and people are hurt by it like this," Evans said. "The thing that was a little different in this case from, say, an investment scam, is that these people were not looking for some high return and they didn't make any risky investments. They put their money someplace where they thought was a safe harbor."

Evans and Butler said this deal is just – and saves a lot of time and money for county residents.

It's been estimated that the court costs alone for Hatch's trial and pre-trial proceedings have cost upwards of \$100,000. This doesn't account for time spent by two Assistant State At-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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Hatch plea

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

torneys and their staff, or for investigators from the Vero Beach Police Department or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On top of that, Hatch has cost the Indian River County Jail \$62.50 per day for the 30 months since his arrest.

Assistant State Attorney Ryan Butler said an appeal would have taken approximately two years and would have required close coordination to make sure the conviction stuck. There was also the matter of the so-called "severed charges" of about 40 new victims that would need to be tried in a separate case.

"That could have taken another year," Butler said. "We have a list of 100 witnesses we were prepared to call in that case. It would have put the former employees through this all over again. We would have basically had to re-try the case before a new jury."

Restitution unlikely. Is Marjorie Hatch next?

As part of his plea deal, Ira Hatch agreed to make restitution, not only to the victims in the tried case, but also to the 40-some victims in the case that will not go forward. In exchange for that, the state agreed to file no new charges against Hatch, even if new victims come forward.

The next step in the case is for not only victims, but also family and friends of Hatch to submit letters is support or in protest of a maximum sentence.

"The victims will be submitting let-

ters describing their losses. We will assist them in getting restitution orders," Evans said. "The restitution hearing will likely be contentious even though the restitution order will probably be worthless."

"My prediction is that at sentencing, the judge will reserve his final judgment with regard to restitution issues that require further hearings," Evans said.

After the "no contest" plea and the consent to make restitution to victims, trial watchers asked if the outcome would allow the state to go back and seize any assets, such as the Hatch family home.

"We don't have the authority to do any more seizing," Assistant State Attorney Lev Evans said. "The civil lawsuits will hash that out."

There are at least three major lawsuits pending against Hatch, two of them filed by beachside real estate brokers and one by former Hatch law partner Kevin Doty. Doty and Norris and Company Real Estate are already suing both Ira and Marjorie Hatch, who obtained a quickie divorce about seven months ago.

Treasure Coast Sotheby's broker-owner Michael Thorpe said his firm's lawsuit, which is being handled by Rossway Moore and Taylor, will be amended to include Marjorie Hatch in proceedings.

Hatch sued Doty for office furniture and equipment and for some legal fees that came in after Hatch left the firm. Doty's attorney Louis B. "Buck" Vocelle said it will take about a year for Doty's counterclaim against Hatch to be ready for trial. Doty counter-sued

Hatch for losses of fees pilfered from the trust account, as well as damages caused by the upheaval of the closing of Coastal Escrow.

"We already are in Kevin's case, and that will ramp up here 100 percent," he said. "We've been waiting until this case is over. We've got a lot of work to do."

"Yes we will be pursuing the former Mrs. Hatch, she obviously has knowledge of his propensities," Vocelle said, referring to Hatch's involvement and indictment in previous banking scandals in the 1990s in Broward County.

"He was indicted, but it was never reported to the Florida Bar," Vocelle said. "The next step is after Ira's plea is accepted and he's sentenced, he can no longer claim 5th amendment privilege. If he does that, we go back to court," Vocelle said. "We will depose Marjorie Hatch and may also depose Danielle and Rory to find out what they know -- the money had to go somewhere." Vocelle lost \$26,000 in legal fees himself, so he empathizes with the victims. "Nobody's ever going to see the money from Ira, so the restitution is a joke," Vocelle said. "If he spends 30 years in jail, he'll die in jail and that's where he deserves to die. If he gets the maximum amount I'm satisfied."

Attorney John Stewart, who is handling the Norris and Company case, added that while he and Vocelle knew this opportunity was coming, they have not had access to the warehouse full of sealed evidence in the case. Maybe more importantly, they haven't had access to Ira Hatch.

"Probably the first thing I'll do is have a meeting with Lev Evans and see

what kind of records are there, what information we now have access to and go from there," Stewart said.

He said, as a rule, the charges Hatch pleaded to in the criminal case would not have to be re-proven, but the Norris case is based on negligence, that Hatch and his wife and bookkeeper Amelia Lennon had a duty to protect the depositors' money.

"This is really uncommon so I'll have to research it, but as a general proposition in a civil case, you don't have to re-try those issues. It would be impossible to show that my client's money went to something in particular, to pay for something specific."

Stewart said Marjorie Hatch's civil attorney has been pressing him to move the case forward.

Even with a judgment in hand, Stewart said chances are slim that Norris and Company or any other victim would get any of the equity in the Hatch family's riverfront home in Castaway Cove.

"It's a homestead, but if she tries to sell it or refinance, there might be a chance," he said.

When asked whether State Attorney Bruce Colton's office would pursue a case against Marjorie Hatch, prosecutors left the door open.

"That's news to me, but I do have a plan after sentencing regarding the former Mrs. Hatch," said Assistant State Attorney Ryan Butler.

No matter the state's "plan" for Marjorie Hatch, her criminal defense attorney Jeff Battista maintains that all of Marjorie's actions can be explained when looked at through the prism of her maternal instincts.

Battista met Marjorie Hatch when she was referred to him less than a week after Coastal Escrow closed in September 2007 after the state got an order from Judge Dan Vaughn, the first of four judges on the Hatch case, which effectively seized the assets held by the bank.

"Mrs. Hatch came to me in a crisis with the singular goal of protecting her children, her ability to make sure they finished school and were provided for despite the ongoing allegations," Battista said. "She had been a devoted mother, closely involved with the lives of and care of her children, even into young adulthood."

Battista said he accompanied Det. Lee Evans and Investigator Ed Arens to the bank the day that inventoried the contents of the safety deposit box. There was also money in two checking accounts.

He said deposit records showed that much of the \$215,000 was on deposit for many years and may have been derived as gifts from Marjorie's family. A divorce affidavit filed in December suggests those assets are now gone, with the family living off them the past three years.

32963

PEOPLE

P.12

Szechuan Palace celebrates its 21st anniversary

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People

Call her Aisha, belly dancer extraordinaire

BY MICHELLE GENZ
STAFF WRITER

Of all the instructors at the Vero Beach Athletic Club, Judy Cornell is the only one urging her fitness class to be “fluffy.” Six-pack abs, it turns out, don’t join in the jiggle enough for belly dance, Cornell’s specialty.

Pivoting to demonstrate her own tiny figure, a disappointment, she says, to many in her audience, she summons her best Persian accent to impersonate: “You good dancer, but you skinny,” she says.

Cornell, who holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in theater, and is married to long-time Riverside director Allen Cornell, has danced in a number of Riverside Theatre productions – most recently, the grueling “42nd Street.”

She was, at her request, re-christened by her mother as “Aisha” to launch her belly dance career 20 years ago (her mom also sewed her first costumes). Typically she commutes great distances to perform her craft: she is currently

dancing at a grand Persian nightclub in Toronto, and has flown to Dubai three times to dance on cruise ships.

Cornell – Aisha -- is among the rare belly dancers who make a living exclusively from performance. Recently, though, she has begun to teach at two local venues: the Vero Beach Athletic Club, where she teaches fitness belly dance, and the Royal Ballroom dance studio, where the focus shifts more to choreography and improvisation.

Sitting scrunched into a joint-defying knot on the thick blue mats of the gym’s studio, Cornell looks every bit the part of a serious dancer at rest. She is dressed in black tights and jazz shoes, her dark hair tucked up under a decidedly non-seductive baseball cap with her trademark “Shimmy Girl” embroidered on the crown.

Standing, though, she executes a simple flick of the hips, and the bell-studded scarf she has wrapped around herself suddenly turns her pelvis into a musical instrument, using her flexed knees to make her “fluff” quiver like a



Belly dancer Judy “Aisha” Cornell leads a belly dancing for fitness class at the Vero Beach Athletic Club.
Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

tambourine. Slipping out of a cover-up, her pale midriff does indeed look soft despite its flawless tone, and at her will, undulates side-to-side, forward and back, as if segmented like a marionette.

Cornell’s chosen field came to her when she was at the University of Victoria. She was the only child of Hungarian refugees who settled in Toronto after a harrowing escape from their homeland; her father is Frankie Holiday, the long-time local lounge performer.

Cornell loved the urbanity of the big city, and by audition, she had won a spot in a pioneering Toronto arts school, with the day split between dance and fine art coursework and rigorous academics. “On a public high school budget, they had incredible classes. We were required to take violin, piano, band and choir, and for dance, ballet, modern, jazz and folk. Plus art classes – it even operated its own art supply store.”

Then, at 15, her family moved to British Columbia, looking for healthier air to breathe to relieve asthma symptoms. But to Judy, fresh air hardly made up for the oxygen of Toronto’s multi-cultural scene. When the family bought a log cabin on 60 acres, Judy went from her former urban high school of 2000, to a rural school of 400.

“Worse, she was pulled from her beloved arts school. She rushed through her coursework to graduate.

“I hated being there,” she says. “I just focused my energy on skipping a grade early.”

Once she enrolled at the University of

Victoria, she was in her element again. “It was known for its theater department,” she says. “I was always a ham. And though I knew I wanted something in the arts, I didn’t know where I would actually be able to make a living.”

That sense of unease was relieved in an inauspicious way: while in school, she got a part-time job with a singing telegram company in Victoria.

“They had a belly dancer on staff, and she hired me to be her driver.”

“Driver” meant doubling as a sort of bouncer: the diminutive Judy made sure her seductively dressed charge delivered her dancing telegram and got safely away from the recipients.

She also performed in restaurants, the typical venue for professional belly dancers. Judy would wait in the parking lot.

One Saturday night, she slipped inside to watch the dancer’s final show. “I thought, that is so cool to watch. I could learn to do that, I know I could.’ So I asked her if I could take classes with her.”

From then on, she served as driver in exchange for training. From the start, the sensation was exhilarating and as a former ballet dancer, physically liberating.

Then the mentor invited her to a month-long workshop. “It was far more advanced than I was prepared for, but something happened there, and things just started to click. I ended up really finding that that was for me. It was like an artist who figures out what her me-

dium is. For me, this dance form fit.”

Part of the joy came from the improvisational element of belly dance – the moves correspond directly to the music. An ancient dance of unknown origin, many dance historians believe the form evolved of a tribal dance performed by women for an audience of women only.

“It’s the ancient world’s answer to girls’ night out today,” says Cornell. “You want to go to the club and you just want to dance? It’s the same thing: eat some food, blow off steam. It’s the female bonding ointment.”

Other dance historians conclude that the movements – particularly the basic pelvic movements of belly dance – are instinctive, and would have evolved “automatically,” Cornell says. “Because it’s natural.”

That sensuousness may contribute to a stigma that belly dance still retains outside of the cultures where it is practiced regularly – Egypt, Turkey, Iran and elsewhere. “All these years, I’ve been sort of battling that stereotype,” she says. “They look at you like you’re a stripper.”

That misconception began, she says, when burlesque dancers 100 years ago dressed as belly dancers “to make their act seem more exotic.”

Nevertheless, her own parents were totally supportive. In fact, it was her father, Frankie Holiday, who persuaded her to move to Vero in the hopes of finding work at Disney.

That was 1995, two years after she graduated from college. That first summer, she auditioned for “Peter Pan” at Riverside, directed by Allen Cornell; she won a part as an Indian. The theater, which uses only professional actors, helped her get an Equity card, which led to another role, this time in Daytona, where she played a belly-dancing princess in “Kismet.”

As is the tradition among budding actors, she sent out invitations to her prior directors as a way of announcing her new role. That included Cornell, and he called to congratulate her. Two years post-“Peter Pan,” the two were dating. They were married in 2001.

Three years in a row, Cornell has had a chance to experience the lands of origin of the dance when she was hired to perform with a luxury cruise line.

“I got the job with the help of my father,” she says. At the time, Frankie Holiday was performing full time with the cruise line. “The cruise director was talking to him about an upcoming Middle Eastern cruise, and he said, ‘I really need to find a belly dancer.’ And my dad said, ‘Well, this is your lucky day.’ “

But Cornell said that’s the kismet of her trade.

“Sometimes it’s dead, and sometimes it’s just crazy. I never know where my next gig is coming from. But somehow, something always turns up.”



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Szechwan Palace turns 21, celebrates its history



Chris and Ralph Sexton; Sue and John Liang; Hildie and Mark Tripson Photo: Mary Schenkel

MARY SCHENKEL
COLUMNIST

Summer just wouldn't be the same without the annual Anniversary Celebration Buffet Dinner at Szechwan Palace, hosted by John and Sue Liang,

Ralph and Chris Sexton and Mark and Hildie Tripson.

The restaurant's initial grand opening party in July 1989, and an anniversary celebration to mark their first year, were both so well received that they all decided to continue the tradition. A party



Charlotte, Sam, Tiffany, Rob, Kristen, Hildie and Mark Tripson Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.



Bob Solari, Diane Parentela, Peter O'Bryan and Vinnie Parentela

Monday night was the 21st year for the celebration. As in past years, more than 200 invited guests descended on the restaurant to enjoy the plentiful buffet and catch up with old friends.

The Liangs generally have to call in all of their staff to help with the party and even set up tables outdoors to catch the overflow.

Some manned the bountiful buffet tables, while in the kitchen chefs were busy replenishing the copious quantities of food needed to feed the seeming ravenous crowd.

"People are always so happy, greeting each other and enjoying the food," said Liang, who learned the business from family run restaurants in Taiwan. "Some people say they don't ever see each other except here."

"For some reason it's such a special

party," added Chris Sexton. "People really look forward to it."

"I think it's great they do this. I love eating here; it's my favorite spot," said Mark Tripson. "I don't know of any other restaurant in town that closes its doors, invites in all these people and gives them free food. That's about as generous as you can get."

At some point they realized they needed to make the party adults only. "People had started bringing their whole families," said Chris Sexton.

"But now that it's gone on so long, we're working on a second generation party list. It's almost like a rite of passage when the kids are finally old enough to come."

That goes for the Liang's two daughters also. "When we first met John, their daughter Julie was in his arms," remem-

People



John Michael Matthews, Joe Fleischer and Carla Matthews



Bill Jordan with Shelly and Bill Caldwell

bered Chris Sexton.

Today Julie Liang is a student at Stetson Law School and Jenny Liang, back from a tour in Afghanistan, is a dentist at the Naval Hospital in San Diego.

The landmark building that houses the restaurant was the last of Waldo Sexton's projects, and is endowed with his characteristic decorative flair.

"Waldo was always a patron of the arts, and he originally built this as a center for the arts," said Ralph Sexton.

And, like the Ocean Grill, Driftwood and Patio properties, this building literally oozes history.

Murals on beams around the ceiling were painted by popular Florida landscape artists Jim and Joan Hutchinson; then just a young couple out of college.

Sadly, the years have taken their toll on the once vibrantly colored paintings but it doesn't stop patrons from taking it all in.

Lillian Tutsick painted other historically themed murals, including a recognizable Waldo sitting around a campfire

who were on their way down to stop in Vero Beach."

"He built The Patio for Aunt Lulu," said Sexton. "She had a gift fruit business and would sell squeezed orange juice and fruit to the tourists. In 1946 the ice cream man moved in; it was the first Howard Johnson franchise."

"He also bought up all the walnut he could find after learning that the Germans were using it for gun stocks," remembered Tripson. "He made all sorts of furniture out of walnut to keep the Germans from buying it."

The odd maze of rooms in the build-

ing that houses this restaurant is a testament to its multiple uses and growth over the years.

As it was not originally built with a kitchen, one man who leased it in the early days actually cooked steaks in the fireplace.

Eventually, a kitchen, air conditioning and an upstairs bar were added. The building has been home to numerous restaurants over the years, including Italian, German and Greek fare, but as Ralph Sexton commented to John Liang, "I'll say one thing - you sure have stick-to!"



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Incoming Tide

Oriente's Mumford: Defining culinary delights

BY MICHELLE GENZ
STAFF WRITER

They are the behind-the-scenes machines of Vero Beach cuisine: the chefs of the barrier island's top restaurants and clubs. Like so many others in this small town, the dozen or so executive chefs arrive from far away, then seem to settle in for the long haul here, eventually calling Vero home. Over time, as they migrate from venue to venue, leaving their imprimatur on menus and minions, these chefs and their understudies are defining a culinary sensibility here – whether we realize it yet, or not.

In Incoming Tide, we look at the influences of newcomers to the island. This week, we meet Raymond Mumford, who in March donned the top toque at Costa d'Este Resort's Oriente restaurant.

Raymond Mumford has a lot on his plate. The kitchen he presides over at Costa d'Este has just wrapped up lunch service of its Cuban fusion fare,

“Emilio really believes you have to understand the culture and cuisine and where it comes from,” says Mumford. “And that everything that goes on here is like a partnership. We talk about the menu and we make sure everything is authentic.”

and Mumford is heading to a quiet spot, not to work on the evening specials, but for his Spanish lesson.

It's just another step in the transformation from Chef Ray to Chef Raymundo, as the African-American born and raised in Buffalo, NY, takes his place to oversee staff from Colombia, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, El Salvador, Ecuador, Puerto Rico and of course, Cuba.



Chef Raymond Mumford receives help plating his deconstructed Coq au Vin from Chef Jose Faria of Quail Valley during the Vero Beach Top Chef competition. Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

Considering that his training started with Costa co-owner Emilio Estefan himself showing him how to make Cuban coffee, a little conversational Spanish under his belt might mitigate his non-Latin background. “I googled Spanish lessons, and found Edi Finamore from Spain Adventures, and she comes right here to the restaurant,” he says.

“Emilio really believes you have to understand the culture and cuisine and where it comes from,” says Mumford. “And that everything that goes on here is like a partnership. We talk about the menu and we make sure everything is authentic.”

At 2 p.m., he is at the midpoint of a day that started at 8 a.m.

“They have to kick me out of here,” he says. “It doesn't feel like I'm here all day. It's like home to me.”

Chef's circles are always tight, even in urban areas like Manhattan or Mi-

ami. But in a town the size of Vero, they can be downright tornadic. New arrivals assimilate into the kitchens of country clubs and top restaurants, and after learning to please – if not stretch – the particular palates of Vero's typically traditional diners, they eventually are spun off into other ventures.

Some, like David Rodriguez and Ben Tench, go into business for themselves; Tench, who once ruled the range at Orchid and Windsor, now is in his second stint at Tango's reincarnation. Rodriguez left the Caribbean cuisine of Costa d'Este and is on track to open his own restaurant too.

Taking Rodriguez's place at Costa is Raymond Mumford, a familiar face to members of Quail Valley Country Club, where he cooked under his mentor Joe Faria – another circulating chef who toured the island's top clubs before settling in at Quail.

Incoming Tide

People

Mumford's work ethic seems to have developed even faster than his palate – he describes it as “absolutely non-stop strong” and adds, “I've always been like that.” At an age when many culinary school graduates would still be tending the garde manger – he is so young, he is reluctant to tell his age – Mumford has just been named executive chef of Costa d'Este's Oriente.

Consider his latest creation: a filet a caballo, an 8-ounce steak with a poached egg on top, with what he calls a ranchero hollandaise. On the side: a Cuban twist on the classic Puerto Rican mofongo, using yucca instead of green plantains. Or added to the summer menu: the cumindusted ahi tuna with cilantro rice and coconut foam.

If the food at Costa is an exploration in multi-culturalism for his guests, the scene there is a stretch for Mumford too. A native of Buffalo, New York, he left behind the snow and a huge extended family, and the post-church Sunday suppers for two dozen family, plus the pastor – ham hocks, collard greens, cornbread.

Candied yams may have been the Mumford family mofongo; Chef Raymond learned early that roots cooking warms the soul at 10-below, just as well as in the tropics.

Indeed, food became a symbol of sharing outside his family circle when he volunteered at his stepfather's job; he is executive director of a homeless shelter in Buffalo. That childhood experience broadened his appreciation not only for the power of nourishment, but the pleasure of giving. “You cook to give someone happiness at a table. So you just want to give, and you get a bigger heart.”

After graduating from a culinary arts program at his high school, Mumford was paying his way through the New England Culinary Institute in Montpelier, Vt.

Shopping around for an internship at a chef's event at school, he noticed the name of Chef Joe Faria of Quail Valley. “I was looking at his portfolio, and I said, ‘You know what? This is where I want to go.’ And they said, ‘Well, he's right over there.’ I went over and we laughed and giggled and talked about things. Four months later, I came down to work with him.”

That was five years ago. Chef Joe eventually hired Mumford fulltime, and he worked his way up to lead line cook.

“We built a partnership, almost like a brotherhood,” says Mumford. “He was right there with fatherly advice.” Along with teaching him Portu-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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People

Incoming Tide



Raymond Mumford, Executive Chef Costa d'Este's Oriente

That November, the offer came to work at Oriente full-time. He left Quail with Faria's blessings, he says. "He told me, 'If you ever want to come over and give me a big hug, come on over.'"

It is with a similar warmth that Mumford now greets his patrons.

"I have a lot of regulars who come in to chit-chat. You have to build those relationships, so that it becomes a friendship. You look forward to seeing them, and getting Mr. So-and-so his veal chop."

As he took the reins from Rodriguez, Mumford's welcoming smile became all the more important to the ambiance, extending beyond the open kitchen to the bar, the pool and the beach beyond.

"We want everyone to feel like they're on vacation here, that a mojito and relaxation makes life beautiful. I embrace that completely."

As for his own relaxation, he gets it from shopping, not just for clothes, which he enjoys, but for odd objects for his home. The oddest to date was a 1958 junked car he and a buddy bought for \$200 in college, when they were on a two week break and were "absolutely bored."

They had it towed home, and set about fixing it up, though "neither of us knew how to change the oil." Finally they gave up, went to the hardware store, bought paint, and decorated the car with stripes and numbers. "We treated it like a race car, and we had a giant barbecue."

When the installation was finally ordered dismantled by the landlord, they hosted a farewell bonfire as well.

These days, he presides over somewhat more formal affairs.

But he very much expects to keep alive the notion that a party can be had for no reason whatsoever.

"Every night is Saturday night here," he says. Then he cracks a rueful smile. "And every morning is a Monday."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

guese card games ("He taught me the wrong rules so I always lose," Mumford claims), Faria also taught him the essence of his native Portuguese techniques, which Mumford says branched out frequently into Latin and Caribbean cuisine.

When Costa d'Este opened two summers ago, Mumford seized the opportunity to work with the resort's original executive chef, David Rodriguez, spending his mornings at Oriente before reporting to Quail in the afternoon.

"I thought, why not add Cuban to the Portuguese? I'm like a sponge. I want to soak up everything at once."

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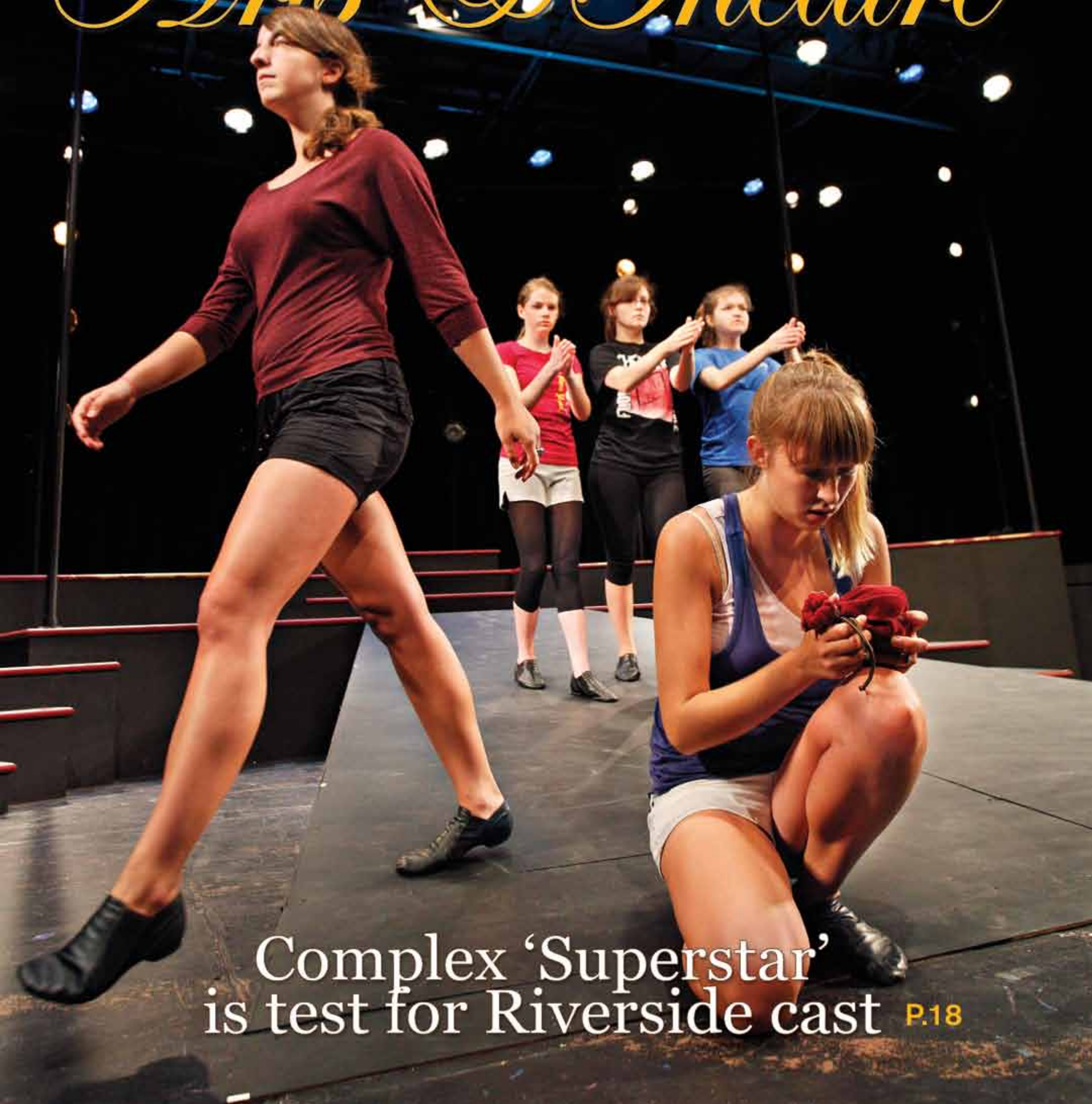
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32963

Arts & Theatre



Complex 'Superstar'
is test for Riverside cast **P.18**

Arts/Theatre

Complex “Superstar” is a test for Riverside’s cast



Cast members rehearse a scene from the second act of the Riverside Children’s Theatre’s production of Jesus Christ Superstar. Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY L. L. ANGELL
COLUMNIST

It’s another sultry summer night on the island. From the outside, Riverside Children’s Theatre appears perfectly peaceful. But appearances can be deceptive. Inside, things are rocking as musical director, Ann Wiggins, belts out the intro to “This Jesus Must Die” on a grand piano and four singers chime in.

“What do we do about this Jesus mania? How do we deal with a carpenter king?”

On a bare stage, the cast and crew of Summer Stage 2010 rehearse Act 1 of “Jesus Christ Superstar”.

Here’s the truth—the music hooks you.

It’s a challenging production. The story is serious. And the music is dark, intense, and complicated, with

a range of rock styles and demandingly complex solos. Fortunately, this cast has the chops necessary to do it justice.

That’s no small thing. Anyone growing up in the ‘70s remembers the hits, “I Don’t Know How to Love Him”, “Everything’s Alright”, and “Superstar”. What’s extraordinary is how this rock opera by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber still pulls you in today just as it did 39 years ago when it opened on Broadway.

“Jesus Christ, Superstar” has played thousands of times around the world. Countless touring companies have zigzagged the globe from Palestine to Iceland to Australia.

Plus, it’s inspired two movies. Despite all the exposure, the musical compels us to listen and respond.

Storyline: the last seven days in the life of Jesus Christ. Rice and Webber



Director Kevin Quillinan, center, advises actors Jay Wiggins and Emma Johnson during rehearsal of the Last Supper scene from Jesus Christ Superstar.

tell the story with anachronistically modern lyrics, focusing on the psychology of Judas.

For Kevin Quillinan, who has directed at Riverside since 2006, it’s one of Summer Stage’s most demanding productions.

Quillinan explains this is a piece of theater, not a religious work.

“We made it clear from the start that we weren’t looking at this from a religious perspective. Stripping it away from the Bible, it’s a story about power.”

The story resonates with this cast of 37, who range in age from 12 through college. These hardworking actors demonstrate an impressive level of self-discipline as they rehearse three nights a week, from 6 to 9 pm.

By opening night on July 23, they will have rehearsed for a total of 6 weeks.

“It’s coming together quicker than expected. This is a strong group,” says Quillinan.

On this particular night, four weeks in, they are working with props, fine-

tuning choreography and working hard.

Seated at two long tables, scores opened before them, are the director, Kevin Quillinan, the choreographer, Adam Schnell, the stage manager, Angelo Cerniglia, and the assistant director, Deborah Quillinan. It takes all of them, plus Wiggins on piano, to make a production this challenging come together.

Since his concept for the show concerns every character’s struggle with power, Quillinan knew what he wanted at the June 5 auditions.

“I wanted people who could strongly convey power through their singing and song interpretations,” says Quillinan.

He certainly found that when he cast Kasey Sanchez as Jesus, Erin Dickerson as Mary Magdalene, and, in a bold move that works, Emma Johnson as Judas.

For Casey Garde, cast member and long-time participant and performer at the Riverside Children’s Theatre, no one could play Judas better.

“It’s great that Kevin was gender-blind on this,” says Garde. “I’m so impressed with what Emma’s doing.”

But back to the rehearsal. While our four female singers wonder what to do with Jesus who is “bigger than John was when John did his baptism thing,” the high priests sing that he is dangerous and a group holding palm

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Arts/Theatre

fronds sing, “Hosana, Superstar.”

Standing up, Quillinan reminds the cast to be physically present.

“We need to see those fists, those head moves, those creepy little movements. Put yourself out there and really go for it,” he says, showing them some power poses.

Now the entire ensemble surrounds Jesus (Kasey Sanchez).

They are lepers writhing, the lame hobbling, and the blind, reaching out, asking him to heal them. Jesus is overwhelmed.

Mary Magdalene (Erin Dickerson) tells him it’s all right and Jesus lies on his side and sleeps.

Simply and sweetly, Dickerson sings one of the production’s best known songs, “I Don’t Know How to Love Him.”

For the momentous temple-scene, Quillinan passes out a variety of pedestrian modern-day props – dead laptop computers and cell phones, sunglasses, nonworking cameras – for cast members in the role of merchants standing on platforms as they hawk their wares. Others are in the crowd.

The placement of each actor is important. In just seconds, Jesus will storm in, angrily knocking things over and crying out. For it to work, everything must be perfect.

As the crowd and merchants sing, Sanchez makes his entrance.

“My temple should be a house of prayer and you have made it a den of thieves. Get out! Get out!”

Sanchez nails it with the right combination of fury, pain, despair, and disgust and Quillinan commends him.

It’s clear that these kids love what they are doing and that Quillinan knows how to bring out the best out from each of them.

An air of mutual respect and rapport between cast and instructors reigns supreme. These young actors have mastered the art of listening, of patience, of really being present when Schnell demonstrates a dance move or Wiggins repeats a passage.

From Taylor Beckmann, a seventh-grader who lives near Sebastian Inlet to Emily Salavador and Austin Carroll, both juniors at St. Edwards, everyone is quick to talk about what they have learned and why they keep coming back.

Kimmie Zerenga, a sophomore at Vero Beach High School, has been involved for 10 years straight. She says the most challenging part of this production is playing an “it”.

“I’m not a he or a she, I’m an it and I think of it like the Three Fates,” she says.

For Emily Salavador, a junior at St.

Edward’s School, the challenge lies in the story.

“It could be misunderstood,” she says. “We want to make it serious but also exciting and kid-friendly.”

Beckmann, a seventh grade who started classes five years ago, thinks she’s found a career.

“If it’s this much fun doing it now, I’d love to do it as a career,” she says.

In this production, she plays multiple parts. “I’m an apostle and a Herod dancer. We get to do handstands and it’s really fun.”

Like Emily, Taylor finds the story it-

self the most challenging.

“It’s s not like your normal musical where you learn the dance and the music. This has a story that people want to know,” she says.

Jacqs Carroll has acted for the past 4 years at RCT, and is a ninth grader at St. Edward’s School.

As a member of the ensemble, Jacqs plays a guard, a leper and a random person in the crowd.

While she enjoys acting on stage and hanging out with her theatre-friends, she thinks acting as a career is a hard business.

Her sister, Austin, plays multiple parts in “Superstar.” She’s been at RCT for the past five years.

“I like the whole community thing and working together. We learn a lot of skills in the theater that we can use later in life,” she says.

Austin wants to be a screenwriter, and believes her experiences at RCT will serve her well.

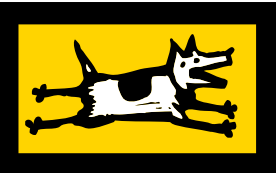
“Jesus Christ, Superstar” plays at the Anne Morton Theatre, July 23-July 31. Call 772-231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com for tickets.



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Arts/Theatre

Vero Beach Museum touts its own collection

BY L. L. ANGELL
COLUMNIST

From the outside, things may seem in disarray at The Vero Beach Museum right now. But, the museum's summer "facelift" in no way affects what's happening inside. The museum is awash with four separate exhibitions from its permanent collection. At the same time, it continues to offer an array of tantalizing classes and workshops for children and adults.

For the first time in its 24-year history, the museum has opened its three galleries and outdoor sculpture park exclusively to exhibit its permanent collection. An extraordinary number of first-rate works are on display now through the fall and all four exhibitions are free to the public.

Here is a quick, thumbnail sketch of each exhibition:

Featuring approximately 40 works, **Connections: Selections from the**



Dominick Labino glass.

Permanent Collection presents a provocative selection of diverse media including painting, prints and

works on paper, sculpture, glass, and photography. The largest exhibition in the museum, **Connections** includes work by some of the most respected artists of the 20th century: Salvador Dali, Louise Nevelson, Alex Katz, Jim Dine, and Conrad Marca-Relli to name a few. This installation has a playful twist. Forbes has paired works together that depict different interpretations of a similar subject, illustrate artistic influences and create interesting comparisons and contrasts. **Connections** is on exhibition in the Holmes Gallery through Sept. 26, 2010.

Clearly Color: Glass from the Permanent Collection is the divine exhibition of glass featuring some of the masters of the craft including Dale Chihuly, Dominick Labino, Harvey Littleton, and Marc Petrovic. **Clearly Color** features 10 glass pieces and is on display in the Stark Gallery, July 17, 2010 through Jan. 2, 2011.

In **Sculpture from the Permanent**

Collection, eight pieces of clean, contemporary sculpture animate the Alice and Jim Beckwith Sculpture Park. The works explore a variety of styles and aesthetics by a number of renowned three-dimensional artists including Hanneke Beaumont, Thomas Ostenberg, David Hayes, and Essie Pinsker. These sculptures are both energetic and evocative. **Sculpture from the Permanent Collection** is on exhibit through Nov. 22, 2010.

In Focus: Photography from the Permanent Collection presents an engaging look at the diversity in the museum's permanent collection of photography.

These are contemporary pieces, with works by several well-known regional artists and recent acquisitions of large-scale contemporary photographs. Some featured photographers are Clyde Butcher, James Balog, and res. **In Focus** is on view in the Schumann Gallery through Sept. 5, 2010.

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HEALTH

New Vero outpost in
battle against addiction

P.22

Health

Gate Lodge: New outpost in battle against addiction

BY JOSIE GOYTISOLO
CORRESPONDENT

Vero Beach resident George Hamner, Sr. fought two wars successfully in his 86 years. One was WWII against the Japanese. The other against addiction.

In 1973, it was his addiction that had brought him to his knees.

"My alcoholism was dramatically af-

fecting me, my actions were leading toward the destruction of my family. I knew at this time that I had to change everything in my life. I had living proof that my life had become unmanageable."

Hamner, who lives on the barrier island and is the retired CEO of Indian River Exchange Packers, the family-run citrus business started by his wife Ann

Graves Hamners' grandfather and great uncle, has been paying it forward, one day at a time since then, receiving many calls for help over the years.

His goal is lofty -- to keep quality options for treating various forms of addiction alive in Indian River County.

In Vero Beach, the treatment options for addiction are limited. The disease so often waged in silence -- and privately

-- by families is not the subject of dignified conversations at local charity galas. Even today, it carries a stigma, one that Hamner -- now 36 years sober -- and others working with the disease of addiction combat daily.

Those seeking outpatient treatment locally can get access through a number of places. The Substance Abuse Council of Indian River County refers county residents to a variety of state-funded services. There are a couple of organizations including Breakthrough Recovery and Western Judicial that provide substance abuse outpatient services for a nominal fee.

Residential treatment options for those who cannot pay are limited to New Horizons, which provides detox and residential care in Fort Pierce, and CARP of West Palm Beach, which charges a sliding scale based on income. But there are waiting lists. There are also a large number of qualified licensed medical health professionals locally who charge for services, although many work with their clients.

Dr. Wayne Creelman, Eminent Scholar Chair of the University of Florida Center for Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine in Vero Beach, has been in practice more than 30 years. His office provides clinical services and science based treatment programs, with a focus on education, prevention and early intervention to residents of Vero Beach and the Treasure Coast. He considers AA to be the bedrock for maintaining sobriety.

"By immersing themselves and embracing a 12-step recovery program, an individual is going to use those steps for the rest of their lives if they want to successfully remain sober. That's why they are not healed, there's no past tense, no end point. It's always an active treatment process embraced on a daily basis."

Hamner said those on the barrier island fighting the disease have sought private treatment in places like Hazelton in Minnesota, which pioneered treating chemical dependency as a disease instead of a character or moral issue; The Caron Foundation in Pennsylvania or Father Martin Ashley in Baltimore. And then there is the Hanley Center, which opened in November of 1986 in West Palm Beach.

But Vero was lacking in similar services.

At the time, the only local treatment center in Vero was Alchohope of the Treasure Coast, which primarily served the indigent population of Indian River, St Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee coun-

Health



Gate Lodge Hanley Center at Vero Beach

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

ties. When the Hanley's retired to Vero Beach in the late 90s and toured the rundown facilities, they became the moving force behind bringing affordable private treatment to this area.

The Hanley Family Foundation donated \$400,000 of the more than \$1.3 million raised for the building, equipping, and staffing of a new 20-bed residential chemical dependency treatment center, built on land leased from a subsidiary of the Indian River Medical Center.

Hanley Hall opened for business April 5, 2005, but almost from the beginning it had financial troubles. It was one of the lowest costing programs in the state of Florida at \$7,800 for a 28-day stay, yet as a recession kicked in, few could afford such a price.

"It was very difficult to keep it open even though it was a break-even situation because the average family, not only in this county, but also the rest of the state, couldn't afford it. And the economic decline didn't help either," Hamner said.

Hoping to save Hanley Hall, Hamner obtained a \$400,000 unsecured line of credit from a local beachside bank to help with cash flow issues. When Hanley Hall went through a third of that money without much success, Hamner and others worked to have Hanley Center in West Palm Beach take on their existing clients.

Hanley Hall shut its doors in September 2009. Hamner made sure every bill was paid after that, he said.

But Hamner was undeterred. "George is not a person who gives up," said Dr. Barbara Krantz, Hanley Center CEO and Medical Director of Research. "His heart and soul is in the recovery community and he was extremely instrumental in helping us open Gate Lodge Hanley Center of Vero Beach."

Gate Lodge, housed in the old Hanley Hall building at 3395 11th Court, opened informally in May of this year as an extension of Hanley Center. While focusing on those who relapse, it is a retreat setting open to anyone who needs

to immerse in a long-term recovery program.

"Understanding that the retreat model in Minnesota was successful and helped thousands of patients awaken to recovery, we used that treatment model which is structured around 12-step principles, and is fully licensed and accredited by the Department of Children and Families (DCF)," said Krantz. Their staff locally is headed by Michael Counes, who is the president of Floridians for Recovery, a statewide advocacy group looking to looking to advocate for those suffering from the disease of ad-

diction.

Today, an estimated 25-35% of people who complete addiction treatment will be readmitted to treatment within one year, and 50% will be readmitted within five years.

Krantz, who has been in practice for more than 30 years, points out that addiction is a brain disease but that the vast public perception is that this is a moral issue.

"A core concept evolving with scientific advances over the past decade is that drug addiction is a brain disease

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Construction Begins for New Vision Eye Center

The new multi-million dollar home of the New Vision Eye Center, which will feature a patient-friendly experience from the parking lot all the way to the doctor's offices, is expected to be completed by next summer.

Located just east of Vero Radiology and across the street from Indian River Medical Center, the 19,000-square-foot single-story facility will feature a 6,500-square-foot surgical center and another 12,500-square-feet devoted to clinical space for the four full-time ophthalmologists at the center -- Dr. Paul Minotty, Dr. Roger Meyer, Dr. David O'Brien, and Dr. Stephen Tate.

"We represent every specialty both medically and surgically as far as ophthalmology is concerned," Dr. Minotty said. "And we will be able to grow if that is something we decide to do."

Dr. Minotty said the group considered a number of sites throughout the county, but that it ultimately made the most sense to be in the heart of the medical district to house the center. Among the attractive features was building new rather than retro-fitting space to meet their needs which also means bringing in all brand new state of the art equipment.

Construction began the beginning of June and is expected to take about a year to complete. And as a new building it will meet all the current and stringent environmental and safety codes.

The above story originally appeared on VeroNews.com.



Rendering of the New Vision Eye Center future location, planned to be finished in 2011.
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Health



George Hamner, Sr. sits with his collection of citrus company labels at the offices of Indian River Exchange Packers.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

that develops over time as a result of the initially voluntary behavior of using drugs or alcohol. The consequence is virtually uncontrollable compulsive drug craving, seeking, and use that interferes with, if not destroys, an individual's functioning in the family and in society. This medical condition demands

formal treatment," said Krantz.

Treatment is but the beginning of a lifelong maintenance process, in some cases mandating ongoing behavioral therapies as well as social networks, which help individuals sustain abstinence, say Krantz and others.

Gate Lodge Hanley Center costs \$4,200 for a 29-day stay. Some scholarships are available for local and state

residents.

Moorings resident Tim Cheney is another barrier island resident providing help for those with addictions. At the age of 30, he was lying desperate in an emergency room in New England. A physician, neatly attired in a white coat came to his side and said "is that you Timmy?" He looked up to see his cousin, whom he hadn't seen in 18 years.

While his cousin had grown up to be a physician at an Ivy League teaching hospital, Cheney was a street junkie and alcoholic.

"A switch tripped in my terrorized soul. I knew that it was over and that if I chose to disregard this last call that my life would be over," said Cheney.

Cheney went from living in the streets to running a multinational corporation. Today, partially retired, he serves on the board and is a very active participant of the Children's Home Society of The Treasure Coast. His gratitude to be alive is fueling his latest business venture, Chooper's Guide.

Choopers is an online resource directory for those suffering from addiction, their families and clinicians. Cheney and his partner, Adrian Hooper, have developed a site which is easy to use and navigate, as well as comprehensive



Tim Cheney

and accurate.

The majority of existing sites are marketing oriented which makes it very difficult for anyone seeking help to discern fact from sales pitch.

Chooper's facilitates the process by allowing for apples-to-apples comparisons for services.

"The user can now compare facilities or specialists side by side on our site, in essence apples to apples," said Cheney.

Cheney says the site, www.choopers-guide.com will be available live online within a few weeks.

While addiction research expands, access is a serious problem. Those without resources are often placed on waiting lists and fall off the radar. Michael Counes said that those in the field continue to work toward giving the addicted a voice.

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32963

Not-so-clean politics dominate Legislature's special session P.31

INSIGHT



Diagnosis: Battle wound P.26

The military reckons with the mental injuries of war

Diagnosis: Battle wound

The military reckons with the mental injuries of war

STORY BY GREG JAFFE - WASHINGTON POST / PHOTOS BY EPA AND WHITNEY SHEFTE - WASHINGTON POST



The 300-pound bomb blasted Marine Staff Sgt. James Ownbey's mine-resistant truck so high that it snapped power lines before it slammed to the dusty ground in western Iraq.

Ownbey, knocked briefly unconscious by the blast, awoke to suffocating black smoke and a swirling cloud of dirt. He felt for the vehicle's door, then stumbled into the sunlight where he was joined by the rest of his woozy, three-man crew. Their bodies were sore, but they looked fine.

A Marine general visiting from Washington heard about the blast and came to see the survivors. As Gen. James F. Amos laid a hand on Ownbey's neck, his aide snapped a picture, proof of the new vehicle's efficacy against insurgent bombs.

"I kind of felt separated from myself," Ownbey recalled of the aftermath of the 2007 blast. "It didn't feel like anything was real."

Two years after the explosion Amos and Ownbey met again, this time in a cramped room at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. Ownbey had been overtaken by terrifying panic attacks, puzzling memory loss and strange rib-snapping coughing fits that left him hospitalized for weeks at a time. Doctors diagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury, caused by battlefield concussions.

For Amos, seeing Ownbey's condition was the moment that the bloodless trauma of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars became tangible. "I thought we can't do this anymore," said Amos, referring to the military's slow response to treating PTSD and traumatic brain injury.

Ownbey's descent from dazed survivor to bed-ridden Marine exemplifies the debilitating passage of troops afflicted with PTSD and traumatic brain injury. His story also traces the military's awakening.

Senior commanders have reached a turning point. After nine years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq, they

are beginning to recognize age-old legacies of the battlefield -- once known as shellshock or battle fatigue -- as combat wounds, not signs of weakness.

Gen. Peter Chiarelli, Amos's Army counterpart, has been especially outspoken. "PTSD is not a figment of someone's imagination," Chiarelli lectured an auditorium of skeptical sergeants last fall. "It is a cruel physiological thing."

The challenge facing Amos and Chiarelli has been convincing an undermanned force that PTSD and traumatic brain injury are real injuries that demand immediate care. The generals also have run up against an overburdened military medical system that is short on doctors and reluctant to take risks with new types of treatment.

"I have been asked . . . should you have figured this out sooner?" said Amos, who was recently tapped to be Marine Corps commandant. "Yeah, we should have. But we didn't. It has been evolutionary."

Only a few weeks before the blast that injured him, Ownbey had reenlisted for another four years.

His engineer company's job was to find and destroy roadside bombs, a dangerous mission that had claimed the lives of eight Marines over two tours. The toll weighed heavily on Maj. Jeff Hackett, Ownbey's commander, who had begun to blame himself for the deaths. "I can't stand to look at myself," he confided in an e-mail to his wife.

When Ownbey arrived at his base's aide station following the blast he immediately called Hackett, who rushed to see him and the other wounded Marines. Ownbey remembers the relieved look on his commander's face.

Later that night Hackett told his wife about the apparently unscathed survivors of the massive bomb. "They are so fricking lucky!!!" he wrote.

'Every day he deteriorated'

In late September 2007, about three weeks after the blast, Ownbey returned to Camp Lejeune,

N.C., after finishing his third combat deployment. This homecoming was nothing like the first two. The Ownbeyes had bought a small house near the base. On the first drive home with his wife and three children, Ownbey slammed on the brakes, stopping just short of a pothole that had been repaired.

"Why is that there?" he said pointing to the square of pavement, which resembled the holes insurgents use to plant roadside bombs.

"What do you mean?" his wife, Sandy, recalled asking him.

Ownbey jerked the wheel to the right and drove across a neighbor's lawn to avoid the patched pavement.

Sandy took her husband on a mountain getaway a few weeks later. After dinner and a few glasses of wine, Ownbey began rambling incoherently about friends killed in Iraq. "He was walking and talking as if he wasn't really there," she said.

Sandy called up one of her husband's close friends from his Iraq tour. Ownbey spent the next three hours talking and sobbing before he fell asleep with the phone cradled to his ear. The next day he sought counseling for PTSD.

As time passed, Ownbey's hands began to shake and he began to put on weight. Five months after the blast, he finally landed an appointment with a neurologist at the Camp Lejeune hospital. The military cannot fill its pre-9/11 quotas for neurologists, creating agonizingly long waits.

At the examination Ownbey couldn't remember and repeat three simple numbers. He was so twitchy that his doctor ordered him to stop driving.

In late 2008 blood clots caused by the blast injury migrated to Ownbey's lungs, leaving him so short of breath that he couldn't climb a flight of stairs. He coughed so hard that he snapped six ribs. The doctors at the Camp Lejeune hospital moved him to Bethesda in February 2009.

"Every day he deteriorated for over a year," Sandy said.

'It was three hours of hell'

In spring 2009, the top brass in the Marine Corps and the Army were seeing troubling signs that the force was starting to fray. The suicide rate in the two services was on pace to set a record. The percentage of the Army's most severely wounded troops who were suffering from PTSD or traumatic brain injury had climbed to about 50 percent, from 38 percent a year earlier.

Amos and Chiarelli ordered the military's top psychiatrists and neurologists to the Pentagon for a meeting. "We were looking for some treatments," Amos said. "Something we could do right now."

To moderate the session, the generals brought in David Hovda, a UCLA neuroscientist who had worked closely with the National Football League on concussions.

Hovda gave a 15-minute presentation on traumatic brain injury. Then the military doctors began to argue with him and among themselves, according to participants. PTSD and mild traumatic brain injury both cause a similar array of symptoms, such as migraines, sleeplessness, anxiety and memory loss. The military doctors worried that Hovda was too quick to blame repeated concussions for medical symptoms that could also be attributed to PTSD or depression.

"It's not wrong to think these symptoms could be related to concussion," said Army Col. Charles Hoge, one of the military doctors at the session. "What is wrong is to think that they are only related to concussion."

Hovda shot back that Hoge was underestimating the damage caused by repeated battlefield concussions. "I do not agree with Colonel Hoge's position at all," he wrote in an e-mail after the meeting.

Doctors say it is essential to understand what is producing the symptoms they are trying to treat. PTSD is caused by the way the brain remembers a harrowing event. Traumatic brain injury results from the jostling of the brain.

The disagreement was deeply frustrating for both Amos and Chiarelli.

"It was three hours of hell," Chiarelli said. "No one could agree on anything."

Amos and Chiarelli stormed out of the meeting angry. They worried the internal debate was slowing the effort to help suffering soldiers and Marines. At



3:51 a.m. Chiarelli fired off an e-mail to Amos and Hovda. "I am frustrated with the way we are treating, or not treating, [traumatic brain injury] and PTSD," he wrote. "There seems to be a lack of direction and so many different ideas of what right looks like."

The generals asked Hovda to invite a dozen top civilian experts on PTSD and traumatic brain injury

to Washington for two days of meetings. They wanted the sessions to focus on treatments that military doctors and researchers had overlooked. To prevent the sessions from bogging down into another academic debate, Amos and Chiarelli did not invite most of the military physicians from the first session.

Amos had his encounter with Ownbey at Bethesda in late August 2009, four days before the meeting with civilian doctors and scientists. The general had been pinning Purple Hearts on wounded troops when he got word that one of the patients wanted to see him.

The Marine was so weak he could barely walk. Electrodes and wires were pinned to his bare, puffy chest. The 2007 blast had damaged Ownbey's pituitary gland at the base of his brain and his weight had ballooned to 240 pounds. He was 165 pounds before the injury.

Amos extended a hand to introduce himself. "Sir, we've met before in Iraq," Ownbey said.

Sandy watched as the general slowly recognized her husband. Amos's face turned ashen. He hugged Sandy, and she began to cry. "We are going to figure out why this is happening to him," he said.

Amos opened the meeting with the civilian doctors on Sept. 1, 2009, by passing out the now two-year-old picture of himself and Ownbey posing in front of his crumpled vehicle. Then he handed out the snapshot of the Marine in his hospital bed.

"What can you do to help us with this now?" he asked the doctors.

'He just feels numb'

By early October, Chiarelli had become obsessed with the science of PTSD and traumatic brain injury. He turned an awards luncheon in Washington for the Army's 24 noncommissioned officers of the year into a half-hour seminar on the mental wounds of war.

The Army general flashed a picture of three brain scans depicting a normal brain, a patient in a deep

coma and a UCLA football player who had suffered a mild concussion. The normal brain glowed red and yellow, indicating that it was actively burning glucose. Both the concussion and the coma scans were blue, a sign that the brains had shut down to heal.

The football player's brain would only return to normal if it were given a couple of weeks to heal before it was struck again, Chiarelli said, according to a transcript of the event.

Chiarelli then explained how physiological changes caused by PTSD flooded the body with chemicals and triggered a rush of fear. "Contrary to what some believe, PTSD and traumatic brain injury are not phantom conditions exhibited by weak soldiers trying to get out of a deployment," he said.

As the months passed, Chiarelli began to refer to post-traumatic stress disorder as PTS. "I drop the D because I believe it is more of an injury than a disorder," he said. "A lot of doctors agree with me, but there are some who don't."

He sent instructions urging commanders to hold full memorial services for suicide victims just as they would for other Army fatalities.

The best way to erase the stigma of mental illness, he insisted, would be to award the Purple Heart to troops suffering from post-traumatic stress. A 2008 study ordered by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates had concluded that it was too difficult to prove that a soldier was suffering from PTSD. By 2010 Chiarelli countered that the science had sufficiently advanced and was worth reconsidering.

Amos disagreed with Chiarelli on the Purple Heart. "We need to keep that award as pure as we possibly can," he said.

The two generals worked with the civilian doctors from the meeting they had organized in Washington to develop new procedures for treating mental wounds. To prevent traumatic brain injury, the doctors recommended new rules requiring troops who experienced a concussion to rest until a doctor cleared them for duty. After three concussions troops are no longer allowed to return to combat for the rest of the tour.

"We've taken away the opportunity for Marines to say they are good to go after a concussion," Amos said, "because every Marine is going to say he is fine."

The generals' goal was to fix the flawed system that Ownbey and his men confronted in Iraq and when they returned home to Camp Lejeune.

Gunnery Sgt. Christopher Wellman, who was sitting behind Ownbey when their truck was launched 30 feet in the air, estimated last month that he suffered four or five concussions during his final tour in Iraq. But he never sought medical care or skipped a patrol to rest and heal. "People were dying," he said.

He returned home and began experiencing memory problems, dizziness, nightmares and migraines.

Staff Sgt. Curtis Long, who was driving the truck, came home from Iraq angry and emotionally distant. "He told me that he had to force himself to feel something for me and our kids," said Virginia Long, his wife. "He just feels numb." She urged to him get treatment for PTSD, but he stopped after five sessions.

Last summer Long began to suffer migraines, hand tremors and a nervous eye twitch. Long's platoon sergeant pressed him to seek help from a neurologist, who said his symptoms were caused by stress. Months passed before the doctor was able to squeeze him in for a second exam.

The 25-year-old Marine sat for 45 minutes in the waiting room, then screamed at the receptionist and stormed out of the office. "I just went off on her," Long said. His wife begged him to return, but he refused.

In February Ownbey recommended his former neurologist at Camp Lejeune. More than two years after the blast, the doctor diagnosed traumatic brain injury and put Long on a weekly regimen of four therapy sessions to help him compensate for memory and balance problems.

A Navy medic who was a part of Ownbey's crew said he has suffered no long-term effects from the explosion.

Ownbey's health - though still fragile - has slowly improved.

'I deserve Hell'

Ownbey's good friend and company commander, Jeff Hackett, retired as a major from the Marine Corps after 26 years of service.

"He looked like he was really going to miss it," Ownbey recalled. Ownbey hugged him, and for the first time in their three years together called him "Jeff" instead of "sir."

Hackett and his wife bought a house and 40 acres of land about an hour outside of Cheyenne, Wyo. His family said he often seemed distant.

When Ownbey had reenlisted in August 2007, he suggested that Hackett don his blast-resistant suit for the ceremony, which took place outside in 120-degree heat. Hackett did it.

By 2010 Hackett's goofy sense of humor was gone. He could not stop blaming himself for the deaths of the Marines his company lost in Iraq. "I

killed eight of my men," he told his sister.

On June 5, Hackett called his wife, Danelle, from the parking lot of American Legion Hall in Cheyenne. "I just want to let you know how sorry I am and that I love you," he said. He called his sister to thank her for her love and support. Then he turned off his phone.

Hackett's sister raced to his house, picked up

Danelle and began searching for Hackett.

The retired Marine returned to the American Legion Hall and continued to drink. After about an hour, he pulled out a gun and shot himself.

In the front seat of his Chrysler truck, his wife and sister found an envelope on which he had scribbled "I deserve Hell."

Amos called to offer his condolences on July 4. She told him about her 18-year-old son, who is headed to boot camp later this year.

"I don't want others to suffer what my sons and I have gone through," Danelle told the general. "I want to be an advocate."

Amos promised her he would stay in touch. ★


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Beth Molton’s crusade against the wicked cybersquatters

EDITORIAL

When Beth Moulton began publishing Vero Beach Magazine in the late 1990s, she registered the trademark, Vero Beach Magazine, and signed up for the web domain, VeroBeachMagazine.com.

During the decade since, the website has been used primarily as an online kiosk for selling subscriptions. You can see photos of covers, but you can’t read any of the glossy magazine’s stories there, either from the current issue or from the issues of years gone by.

And for whatever reason, Beth never saw any point to registering any of the other variations of her web name, such as VeroBeachMagazine.org, VeroBeachMagazine.net, VeroBeachMagazine.us, or VeroBeachMagazine.info.

Many companies that are Internet aware register multiple variations of their domain name (they typically cost \$7.99 each) to enhance the likelihood that searchers will make it to their site.

But a decade went by, and Beth showed no interest in any of these other domain addresses.

Then in 2008, we launched Vero Beach 32963. When we registered VeroBeach32963.com, we also registered VeroBeach32963.org, VeroBeach32963.net, VeroBeach32963.info and a variety of other variations as well. For an extra \$40 or \$50 a year, it seemed like a cheap investment.

And in an effort to further help unfamiliar out-of-town searchers looking for news about Vero Beach to find our beachside newspaper on line, we registered a variety of other domain addresses that combined the name of the community, Vero and/or Vero Beach, with generic words descriptive of various types of media (newspaper, periodical, magazine, report, etc).

We registered more than 100 such addresses including veronewspaper.com, verojournal.com, verotvnews.com, and verobeachmagazine.net.

None of these addresses gets more than an occasional visitor. They don’t come up in the search engines. But instead of leaving out-of-town surfers who type one of these addresses to stare at a blank screen that says “Oops! Internet Explorer could not find verojournal.com,” the names we registered automatically forward them to a site with news and information about Vero Beach.

For the past year and half, this has been a total non-event. Then out of the blue three weeks ago, a certified letter came from a Big Time Orlando Law Firm with five names (in our experience, the more

names, the higher the hourly billing rate) accusing us of being “cybersquatters,” and threatening us with legal action and huge fines.

This Big Time Law Firm, the letter went on to say, was representing Moulton Publications, Inc., and they were mighty angry to discover we had registered four websites with addresses that included the name of our community and the word magazine.

The letter went on to accuse us of “trademark infringement, unfair competition, and cybersquatting,” and added that we obviously had registered the domain names “in bad faith.”

“It is clear that you have purposefully registered these domain names so that Moulton Publications, Inc. would be forced to purchase the domain names from you,” the Big Time Law Firm said.

That suggestion really hurt. Since Beth had taken no interest in registering these addresses for \$7.99 a piece during the previous decade, how stupid would that make us to imagine she might wish to buy them at some inflated price?

But frankly, the whole idea of getting this certified letter from a Big Time Law Firm left us non-plussed. How much trouble could it have been for Beth to call us, tell us she was unhappy, and ask us nicely if we would transfer the addresses to her (which we cheerfully would have done).

What leads people -- the minute they see something that upsets them-- to rush out and hire a high-priced lawyer?

Perhaps it is the thrill of seeing a letter warn someone that “we shall, without further notice to you, take such further action as we deem advisable to assert our client’s statutory rights,” and concludes with the ominous words, “GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.”

Why, we were literally trembling. After a bracing drink, we rushed to respond to the Big Time Law Firm.

We pointed out several errors of fact made by the Big Time Law Firm, and explained that in registering these addresses, our idea had been to help web searchers find a site providing news and information about Vero -- a legitimate interest, we thought.

We also added that we could not comply with their demand that we “immediately stop using the Vero Beach Magazine trademarks on any and all advertising or marketing materials” because *we never at any time used the Vero Beach Magazine trademark on any materials of any kind.*

You might have thought that would end this silliness. But noooo. Not with a Big Time Law Firm in-

involved, and the hourly billing clock running.

We next got a letter from a name partner at the Big Time Law Firm. This one said that if we thought “cybersquatting only occurs if you attempt to resell the domain names,” we were sadly mistaken.

Wait a minute. Wasn’t that exactly what they accused us of planning to do in the first letter? Now, it seems, we were being accused of “redirecting traffic from the Vero Beach Magazine websites to your own competing website.” That heinous offense, we were warned, was going to cost us “statutory damages” of up to \$100,000 per domain name.

In our reply, we pointed out that this seemed like quite a fuss over four domain names that had gotten a grand total of 11 clicks (other than the law firm’s and Ms. Moulton’s) in the 15 months since we registered them.

And, we added, had Beth approached us nicely instead of rushing out to hire pricey lawyers to go after what is essentially a worthless asset, this could probably have been resolved in some intelligent fashion.

In the hope-springs-eternal category, we even copied Beth on this letter in the touchingly naive belief she might yet decide to save a few dollars on legal fees and call us directly.

Foolish us. Only a day later, we got a reply from the Big Time Law Firm. It said, “You have until July 21st to transfer the domain names to my client. Otherwise, I am authorized to file suit in federal court against your companies and you personally on that date.”

Wow. Federal court. Well, the next step in this affair would appear to be for us to go out and hire our own Big Time Law Firm. But somehow, spending thousands of dollars to fight over four domain names that nobody visits -- and which cost us a grand total of \$63.92 -- doesn’t strike us as making the most compelling business sense.

So two days ago, we bequeathed the four web addresses to Moulton Publications. Happy Birthday, Beth. You and your Big Time Law Firm can celebrate your triumph over the wicked cybersquatters.

PS: By the way, Beth, you might be interested to learn that nobody so far has registered VeroBeachMagazine.biz, VeroBeachMagazine.mobi, VeroBeachMagazine.tv, VeroBeachMagazine.tel, and some number of other variants.

Maybe you want to sign up for these before some other wicked cybersquatter gets them. Registering them now is much cheaper than hiring a Big Time Law Firm. And when VeroBeachMagazine.xxx becomes available, you don’t want to miss that one, either. ■

Not-so-clean politics dominate special session

BY KENRIC WARD, COLUMNIST

As Florida lawmakers convened in special session this week, renewable-energy advocates wanted to go far deeper than a redundant ban on offshore drilling. They want the Legislature to finally get serious about clean-power programs.

The green agenda remains a long shot in Tallahassee because cosmetic election-year politics will almost certainly triumph over sound public policy.

Gov. Charlie Crist sought a quick constitutional amendment for the November ballot (where he appears as a U.S. Senate candidate). He doesn’t want to muck things up with arcane debate over “avoided costs” and “renewable portfolio standards” that might discomfort his campaign contributors at Florida’s big utilities.

But while BP’s oil gusher has been an unmitigated disaster for the Gulf of Mexico, alternative-energy proponents warn that Florida -- which already prohibits offshore drilling -- has a power crisis in the making.

The Sunshine State, the nation’s fourth-largest electric consumer, isn’t even among the top 10 states in solar production.

Though Florida has 92 million tons of biomass available for energy production, biomass plants provide just a paltry 2 percent of the state’s power needs.

Meantime, Florida utilities spend \$30 billion a year to import fossil fuels to run their coal-, gas- and oil-fired power plants.

Clearly, Florida can do better. But is there the political will to do so?

Senate President-designate Mike Haridopolos, who represents mainland Indian River County, says, “The Legislature is open for business and new ideas.”

“We need an aggressive energy policy -- an all-energy solution that works for Floridians first. We’ve

relied too long on tourism, agriculture and growth,” Haridopolos said at a Clean Energy Summit in Orlando earlier this month.

Lawmakers failed during the past two sessions to enact renewable-energy legislation, partly due to infighting among small-scale producers and big investor-owned utilities, and partly due to fears of higher consumer costs in the short term.



Yet business as usual isn’t much of a bargain these days.

“What’s been going on in the Gulf is the oil industry’s Three Mile Island,” said Rich Holland, president of Holland Advisors.

With fossil fuel prices continuing to rise and carbon taxes looming in Washington, alternative-energy advocates predict that renewable power sources will reach “rate parity” within five years.

Florida, with abundant sunshine and biomass to burn, is well-positioned to grow its own power.

Eric Silagy, a vice president at Florida Power & Light, predicts that its projects will help to make Flor-

ida the second biggest solar producer in the country by year’s end.

But the big utilities say progress will stall unless the Legislature renews a 2008 law which allowed them to pass along all construction costs to ratepayers.

Biomass advocates, meantime, are pressing for more favorable “avoided-cost” rules that will bring a fair return on power they sell to the grid, thereby spurring energy diversity and competition.

Calling biomass power production Florida’s “low-hanging fruit,” experts say these operations can convert waste at an economical rate of 14-16 cents per kilowatt hour. A proposed venture in Indian River County is one of several projects that promise to eat away at landfills while creating jobs.

Meantime, Covanta Energy, is producing 13 megawatts but only receives 6 cents per kilowatt from Progress Energy, another of those big investor-owned utilities (IOUs). Biomass power providers say a market-based adjustment to the Public Service Commission’s “avoided cost” formula is needed to push their businesses forward.

Susan Glickman, director of the Florida Business Network for Clean Energy Economy, says lawmakers must do more than simply pass “voluntary programs that help a couple of companies. We need a level playing field with Renewable Portfolio Standard and carbon caps.”

Rep. Joe Gibbons, D-Pembroke Park, agrees. He introduced a bill to require that utilities obtain at least 5 percent of their energy from renewable sources.

But as a Democrat in a Republican-dominated Legislature, the odds are against him. Republican-turned-independent Crist isn’t helping.

Back in 2007, the governor proposed a 20 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard, which was summarily killed by lawmakers. He hasn’t pushed for it since. ■

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Vero Beach 32963 Media
President and Publisher
Milton R. Benjamin, 559-4187
milt@verobeach32963.com
Marketing Director
Mark Schumann, 696-5233
mark@verobeach32963.com
Art Director
Dan Alexander, 584-0870
dan@verobeach32963.com

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Vero Beach 32963
Managing Editor
Alina Lambiet, 492-9024
alina@verobeach32963.com
Associate Editor
Michelle Genz, 492-9024
michelle@verobeach32963.com
Staff Editor
Lisa Zahner, 584-9121
lisa@verobeach32963.com
Staff Photographer
Tom McCarthy Jr. 205-0262
tom@verobeach32963.com


VeroNews.com
Managing Editor
Ian M. Love, 226-7924
ian@verobeach32963.com
Online Editor
Debbie Carson, 584-9083
debbie@veronews.com
Society Editor
Mary Schenkel, 563-4881
maryelz@veronews.com
Visual Journalist
Keith Carson, 584-9125
keith@veronews.com

Columnists
L.L. Angell (Features), Richard Armitage (Music), Robert & Casey Baggott (Faith), Samantha Baita (Features), Humberto Cruz (Chess), Ron Holub (Sports), Jay McNamara (Life), Sandra Rawls (Features), Tina Rondeau (Restaurants), Cissy Sumner (Pets), Pieter Vanbennekorn (Bridge), Kenric Ward (Op-Ed)
Corporate Staff
Graphic Designer
Tania Donghia-Wetmore, 584-0870
tania@verobeach32963.com
Advertising Representative
Martine Fecteau, 696-2004
martine@verobeach32963.com



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32963 INSIGHT | JULY 22, 2010 | EDITORIAL PAGE 30

PAGE 31 OP-ED | 32963 INSIGHT | JULY 22, 2010



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Exclusively John's Island

Chandler MacWilliam is going places

Chandler MacWilliam started riding horses when she was 4 -- and quickly discovered that she was going places. Most recently, the teen went all the way to Raleigh, N.C. for the 2010 American Quarter Horse Association Region 10 Championship. It proved to be a worthwhile sojourn, she came home as the “all-around winner” in Novice Youth classes.

Still going places, she will now saddle up and head west. For her efforts at Raleigh (the regional covering Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas was held May 13-15), MacWilliam was awarded a Western Tex Tan Saddle, three belt buckles, and numerous other prizes - not to mention a trip to Oklahoma City for the AQHA Ford Youth World Show scheduled for July 30 through August 7.

Did we mention that MacWilliam’s horse has a prominent role in all of this? A Word To The Wise (barn name Chip) will be driven straight through by trainer Thea Bullard.

Chandler turns 18 on Aug. 23, just about the time she starts her senior year at St. Edward’s School. She and her parents, Alex (Buzz) and Stephanie MacWilliam, live in Seagrove. Chandler would like to continue in the college tradition - on horseback as a member of an equestrian team. Her top three choices are Auburn, Georgia and South Carolina.

“My mom got me started,” MacWilliam explained.



Chandler MacWilliam goes for a ride on her horse, Chip. Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

“She used to ride and would take me out to the barn with her. I took riding lessons before I got my first horse (named Scout) when I was 8. Other sports and activities never stuck with me, but horses did. I had my own thing to do.”

The team of MacWilliam and Scout entered the competitive circuit at 4H and local shows - and started to win. When Chandler reached high school the pair moved up to AQHA events.

By that stage, MacWilliam and Scout entered the competitive circuit at 4H and local shows - and started to win. When Chandler reached high school the pair moved up to AQHA events.

Despite qualifying for several more, MacWilliam opted to narrow it down to three showing classes at the youth championships in Oklahoma: Western Horsemanship, English Equitation and English Hunter Under Saddle.

She will have to be patient. In addition to the major logistics involved in simply getting there, these shows entail a lot of hard work, and a lot of waiting around. Whether at home or at shows, MacWilliams does it all in terms of caring for and preparing Chip for a ride. She is, in the words of her mother, “a true horsewoman. I know she’ll always ride.”

Both horse and rider must be presentable come show time. There will be makeup to apply, changes of show clothes depending on the particular event, and let’s not forget that faux tail to attach to Chip – all for a payoff that lasts but a few minutes.

MacWilliams appreciates the support from mom and dad through the years, realizing that she could not have accomplished any of this all by herself. She has also developed a strong bond with her trainer during their three years together. Thea Bullard has become a surrogate “mother away from home,” MacWilliam said. “She’s fun to be around and makes me comfortable. She’s had a major impact on my life. She’s someone I really appreciate.” ■

Scout) but after a while, I wanted something different, bigger. That’s when I got my new horse.”

Much younger (a gelding born in 2004) and more athletic than Scout, MacWilliam says Chip still has a lot to learn.

Scout was a “push button horse,” MacWilliam said. “Chip, though young and green, has definitely taken us to a whole new level of competition. It took us a long time to get where we are. We have our times when he drives me crazy.”

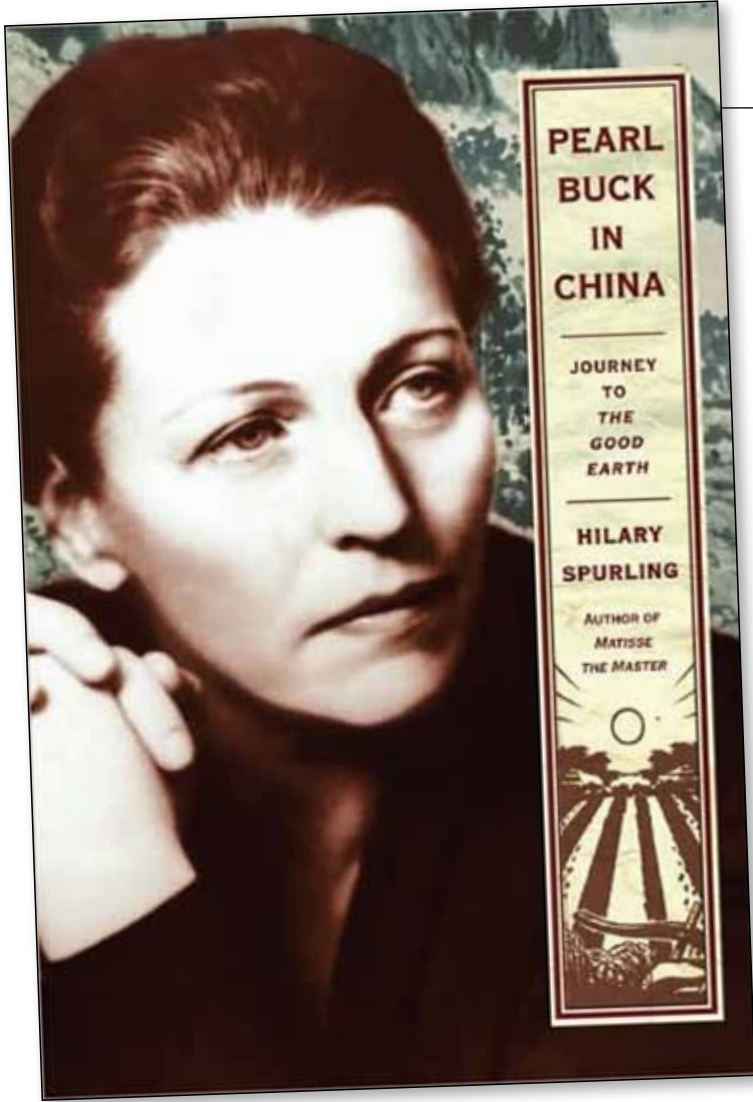
In less than a year, however, “we really started to click (in Raleigh),” MacWilliam continued. “I understand more about his ways. He has a big personality, great appearance, and is a pretty mover. We’ve really started to grow together. We’ve had our ups and downs, but we’ve really done well together.”

MacWilliam and Scout entered the competitive circuit at 4H and local shows - and started to win. When Chandler reached high school the pair moved up to AQHA events.

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In the winter of 1930, an American missionary’s wife wrote a novel about a Chinese peasant family. Showing the manuscript to no one, she sent it to a small New York publisher. The book was selected by the Book-of-the-Month Club, became a bestseller and won a Pulitzer Prize. So obscure was the author that until she lectured at New York’s Waldorf Astoria Hotel, some people wondered if she existed at all.

Pearl S. Buck’s extraordinary journey from obscure missionary to global celebrity is the subject of Hilary Spurling’s new book. This elegant, richly researched work is at once a portrait of a remarkable woman ahead of her time, an evocation of China between the wars, and a meditation on how the secrets and griefs of childhood can shape a writer.

At a time of heightened interest in China, Spurl-

ing’s biography is a compelling tribute to the woman who first focused American attention on the country.

The daughter of Presbyterian missionaries stationed in the port city of Zhenjiang, Pearl grew up wearing loose Chinese trousers and cloth shoes, attending Chinese plays and funerals, and speaking a street slang her parents did not understand.

“When I was in the Chinese world,” she later wrote, “I was Chinese, I spoke Chinese and behaved as a Chinese. . . . When I was in the American world, I shut the door between.” Spurling perceptively explores the influences on young Pearl’s imagination: Chinese folktales, the novels of Dickens, her mother’s stories of an America Pearl had never seen. Before the girl was 10, she knew she wanted to be a writer.

After attending Randolph-Macon, the women’s college in Lynchburg, Va., Pearl returned to China and married John Lossing Buck, an agricultural economist. She proved an indispensable partner in his rural surveys, interviewing farmers and developing a deep sympathy for them.

When she wrote “The Good Earth,” she claimed that the story was fully formed in her mind and poured out in a rush. “Its energy was the anger I felt for the sake of the peasants and the common folk of China,” she said. “My material was . . . close at hand, and the people I knew as I knew myself.”

Reading “The Good Earth” today, one is struck by how little it has aged. The story of the farmer Wang Lung’s struggles in an unforgiving world is as lean and finely wrought as a fable. Details linger in the mind -- the preciousness of a handful of tea leaves, the absolute quiet of a village when starvation comes.

Spurling makes clear how revolutionary Buck’s achievement was. Most Chinese intellectuals and writers were embarrassed by their country’s poverty; that a foreigner was exposing it distressed them all the more. “It is always better for the Chinese to write about Chinese subject matter, as that is the only way to get near the truth,” said the famous writer Lu Xun, expressing what became the

BOOK REVIEWS

standard Chinese judgment on Buck’s work. When she won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1938, China’s delegation withdrew from the ceremony in protest.

In contrast, Buck became enormously influential in the United States. Long before most observers, she warned of disaffection with Chiang Kai-shek’s regime. “Unless something happens to change it,” Buck wrote in 1928, “we are in for a *real* revolution here in comparison to which all this so far will be a mere game of ball on a summer’s afternoon.”

She set up a foundation to promote East-West exchange and organized wartime relief for China. She attacked discrimination against women, blacks and the disabled long before such views became mainstream.

Spurling makes clear that the boundless energy Buck brought to public causes hurt her as a writer. For decades, she turned out one or two books a year but did little to develop her craft; her working method was to produce a first draft at phenomenal speed and leave all revision to her editors. Her best books, including “The Good Earth” and biographies of her parents, came early.

After 1934, she never lived in China again -- and as her distance from her subjects grew, her novels turned didactic and stale. A final attempt to revisit China in 1972, the year before she died, was turned down; long after her death, Spurling notes, it came out that Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai had personally signed the order banning her return.

In our age of intensive China-watching, what does Buck have to teach us? She eschewed ideology; she avoided taking sides; she steered clear of experts and officials. Her understanding of the country was built on years of patient observation, living in backwater cities and befriending students, housewives, servants and farmers.

She did not let her affection for the country cloud her judgment. But in her best work, she insisted on seeing the Chinese as individuals, and she made us see them, too. ■

*Pearl Buck in China by Hilary Spurling
Simon & Schuster, 304 pp., \$27.
Reviewed by Leslie T. Chang
Book World*

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Along the Gulf Coast, trying to survive the oil spill

STORY & PHOTOS: LOS ANGELES TIMES

“Hey, got any extra Jimmy Buffett tickets?” The two 50ish retirees, both wearing sunglasses and hoop earrings, laughed as they tried to get passersby to stop and chat awhile, a Southerner’s favorite pastime on sleepy summer days. And on this overcast afternoon, with a cooling breeze from the Gulf of Mexico, there was plenty to talk about.

“It’s usually bumper-to-bumper traffic this time of year,” said Bunny Munoz, a lifelong resident of the Alabama coast.

Her friend Rita Kruger motioned me to join them on a weather-worn bench on the boardwalk. “Normally, we wouldn’t be able to find a seat here,” she said. Behind them were two red flags, one atop the other, which means it’s illegal in Gulf Shores to go into the water on this late June day. A smattering of bathers ignored the warning, and a couple of them were scrubbing the soles of their feet at an outdoor faucet.

Sand near the Gulf Shores boardwalk was, as it usually is, white, soft and so porous that it was hard to walk on. But midway to the Gulf, where the lap-

ping surf had turned the sand tan and made it firm underfoot, there was brown oil, looking as though it had been drizzled and sprayed by an abstract painter. When a gust of wind blew our way, the smell was pungent: wet sand mingled with dirty petroleum. Tar balls looked like dog droppings but were sticky on bare feet and sandals.

Nibblin’ on sponge cake, Watchin’ the sun bake, All of those tourists covered with oil....

This year, Buffett’s “Margaritaville” lyrics have taken on a whole new meaning.

STIRRING EMOTIONS

“When they clean the beach up, it’s just beautiful again,” Munoz said. “There’s white sand the next morning.”

Do they clean it up much?

“All the time,” Kruger said.

No one on the northern coast of the Gulf of Mexico, from Louisiana’s New Orleans and Grand Isle, to Mississippi’s Gulfport and Biloxi, to Alabama’s Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, to the Florida Panhandle’s Perdido Key, Pensacola Beach and on to Destin and Panama City, is even pretending things are good now.

Certainly not since the last days of June, when the oil gushing from the ruined Deepwater Horizon rig 41 miles off Louisiana reached the Mississippi, Alabama and Florida Panhandle beaches just days before the peak of the summer season.

The situation changes almost by the minute, including some hopeful news late last week about capping the well. But with damage not likely to disappear any time soon, people I talked to on my visit at the cusp of high season were angry about the spill and anxious about their livelihoods, especially in light of a tourism forecast that shows room occupancy about half of what it was last year.

Yet residents here, like those across the Gulf Coast, have rebounded in the past from wicked hurricanes and storms. Disasters bring them together. Giving up is not in their makeup.

Singer-songwriter Buffett is one of them. He was born in Mobile, Ala., about an hour northwest of here, and later lived in the artsy town of Fairhope, facing Mobile Bay about 45 minutes northwest of Gulf Shores.

Last Sunday, Buffett gave a free concert on the beach at Gulf Shores; the 35,000 free tickets — 12,500 to house and condo rental agencies as booking lures — were snatched up in 10 minutes.

At that concert, he changed his “Margaritaville” lyrics slightly.

“Some people claim that there’s a woman to blame,” the original song said. “But I know it’s nobody’s fault.” On July 11, that phrase became, “But I know it’s all BP’s fault.”

The crowd cheered.

NO SURRENDER

Buffett is a partner in the new 162-room Margaritaville hotel, his first, which opened June 28 in Pensacola, Fla., an hour east of here.

In that regard, he is a kindred spirit with the owners and managers in the vacation rental market in this area. There are 16,000 accommodations — hotel rooms, houses and condo rentals — in Gulf Shores. That’s partly what attracted 4.5 million visitors last year, a number that is expected to drop by half, even with a slew of no-deposit reservations and discounts of up to 50% off regular summer rates, said Kim Chapman, public relations manager of the Ala-

bama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The tourism boom began after 1979’s Hurricane Frederic, which nearly destroyed a smaller Gulf Shores and Orange Beach but created a building boom that made this area a major beach resort.

In 2004, Hurricane Ivan hit, turning much of the beachfront into kindling.

Gulf Shores and Orange Beach rebuilt. Again.

And now there is oil on the beach. Tourists are canceling reservations. But residents hope they can meet this newest crisis with an old resolve.

“People are asking what they can do to help,” Chapman said. “One way is to come visit and let us show them what we have here.”

“Other than going into the water or chartering a fishing boat, there’s plenty to do” on the Alabama side of the 32-mile island that extends for a few more miles into Florida’s Perdido Key.

For example, Fort Morgan, a Civil War fort at the western tip of the county’s beach road, is open daily and offers candlelight tours on Tuesday evenings in summer. Arnold Palmer designed three of the region’s numerous 18-hole golf courses.

There’s also a water park; a zoo where children can pet a baby monkey or kangaroo; a small amusement park and putt-putt golf courses.

There are clubs with live music — country, blues, rock that you might not hear in California and names — Pink Pony Club springs to mind — you probably won’t see out West either. Some are remnants of the old Alabama beach style, once dubbed “Redneck Riviera.”

Weekend crowds at the Flora-Bama honky-tonk



near the state line are legendary for partying and for leaving brassieres draped over the rafters. I was surprised to see children eating here at 5 p.m. on a recent Monday, shielded by the hour and day from the beer-swilling, dancing-to-live-music mob and seemingly oblivious to the display of undergarments overhead.

Although you’ll find fast-food chains, the sit-down restaurants are local — and still serving seafood. Buffett’s sister, Lucy, owns Lulu’s, which faces a marina on the intracoastal canal.

Tacky Jack’s Tavern in Orange Beach is known for its seafood and “Mexican Garbage” cheese and beef nachos with tomatoes, onions, black olives, sour cream, jalapeño peppers and salsa. (President Obama ordered that when he ate dinner here in June.)

“We’re trying to support the local restaurants,” said Robert Vealey, who drove with his wife from their home in Ohio. They had hoped to get tickets to the Buffett concert and didn’t but stayed anyway.

“We really like this area,” said Robert, a steelworker. “It’s laid back.”

We watched as 20 or 30 men wearing hazmat suits assembled on the beach. A convoy of trucks rolled on the hard sand among three middle-aged people sitting beside the surf and families playing farther back on the beach. The cleanup was about to begin an hour or so before sunset.

We stayed awhile longer, watching and talking, even laughing, maybe as an antidote to what we saw on the beaches.

“If we couldn’t laugh,” Buffett sang in “Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes,” “we’d all go insane.” ■

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2010 Mid-Year Outlook

Tacking Into the Headwinds

Tacking into the headwinds is necessary to advance against the wind when sailing. As with sailing, when investing, frequent adjustments may be necessary to stay on course. Investors may benefit from a tactical approach to investing in the latter half of 2010 in order to find attractive opportunities when offered and successfully take profits when appropriate.

Please join me for an informative seminar to understand how the markets will likely perform and what strategies we may use to help position your portfolio to potentially profit and protect in the headwinds.

GUY L. BASSINI, CFP, PRESIDENT

TED J. ZAMERSKI, CFA, CPA/PFS

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Alternative strategies will be discussed. Investing in alternative investments may not be suitable for all investors and involve special risks such as risk associated with leveraging the investment, potential adverse market forces, regulatory changes, potentially illiquidity. There is no assurance that the investment objective will be attained.

DATE: July 27
TIME: 11:45 AM (Lunch will be served)
PLACE: Private Yacht Club on Barrier Island

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New Island Dog moves up from South Florida

Hi Dog Buddies!

This week I'd like to welcome a new puppy to the island, Winston. When he arrived here last month from the Miami-Dade animal shelter, I immediately thought: 'Hey, what gives.'

I know a lot of humans are eager to move up here from South Florida. But we've got a great Humane Society right here that is constantly looking for good homes for my pals. I was puzzled as to why two Vero people would drive 150 miles to Miami to rescue a dog from a shelter.

Turns out that Shana Holub, one of Winston's new humans, is a volunteer at our local Humane Society. She tells me she writes articles for the Humane Times and supports the annual fund raiser called "Cause for Paws" at the museum, among other things. So she knows firsthand that our Humane Society wants to be certain that our local rescue dogs and their new humans are a good match.

Since Ms. Holub recently had hip-replacement surgery, she wanted to adopt a puppy that would not weigh more than 30 pounds when fully grown.



Our Humane Society did not have any dogs waiting that fit that bill, so the Holubs turned their search to South Florida where they found Winston.

(I haven't had a chance to ask him if he knows Gloria and Emilio Estefan, but given that their beachside hotel, Costa d'Este, is one of the dog-friendliest in Florida, I'm sure he will be dropping by there soon.)

As for obedience training (something I know a lot about, even if *some* say I wasn't very good at it), I am told Winston is going to be home schooled. That sounds like a great idea to me. No chance of flunking out.

Home is also where the food is. Like me, Winston's scheduled arrival in Sandpointe West was slightly delayed, however. While roughhousing with some other boisterous dogs at his foster home, he suffered a tibial tubercle fracture (sure hope it wasn't as painful as it sounds) and had a pin inserted in his right hind leg. They play rough down there.



He seems to be doing just fine, now, and the Holubs think Winston is pretty cute. He has some interesting stuff going on with his face and his eyebrows, and his humans say he looks like a little old man.

Winston's main job, as a puppy, is doing cute puppy stuff to amuse his humans. He helps out with yard work, and like me, has already discovered the fun

ston hangs out in the kitchen a lot. While he seems to be currently on a bland diet of dry puppy chow, I suggested to him that he wants to be on constant alert for those magic moments when human food drops to the floor. As any of the guys down by the fire hydrant will tell him, once you've tasted people food, there's no going back.

Welcome to 32963, Winston!
Till next time...

The Bonz 🐾

Bridge COLUMN

THE VALUE OF VOIDS
BY PIETER VANBENNEKOM - BRIDGE COLUMNIST

Quite a few times one side has a long major suit and the other has a long minor. Everything else being equal, the side with the long major should win the contract – after all, the other side has to go one level higher to try and steal it, right?

That's what Flustered Flo thought when she played the South hand in a recent duplicate pairs game. She thought West's overcall at 5 Diamonds was surely a sacrifice, and with everyone being vulnerable, she let it go. She was quite surprised when West made her contract, giving up only the Spade and Club Aces.

"Maybe it was intended as a sacrifice because I knew I couldn't stop you guys in 4 Spades," West admitted later, "but my partner's top Hearts gave it to me."

Flo hoped it would be a flat hand, but it was not to be. Her worst fears were confirmed when she found that her nemesis, Smug Sam, who had also played the South hand, scored tops by bidding 5 Spades, which his partner, Shy Shem had no trouble making. Shem lost a top Heart and the Club Queen, but claimed the rest. Playing the contract wasn't all that difficult, but making the 5 Spades bid took a lot more courage, so Flo asked Sam where he had found it.

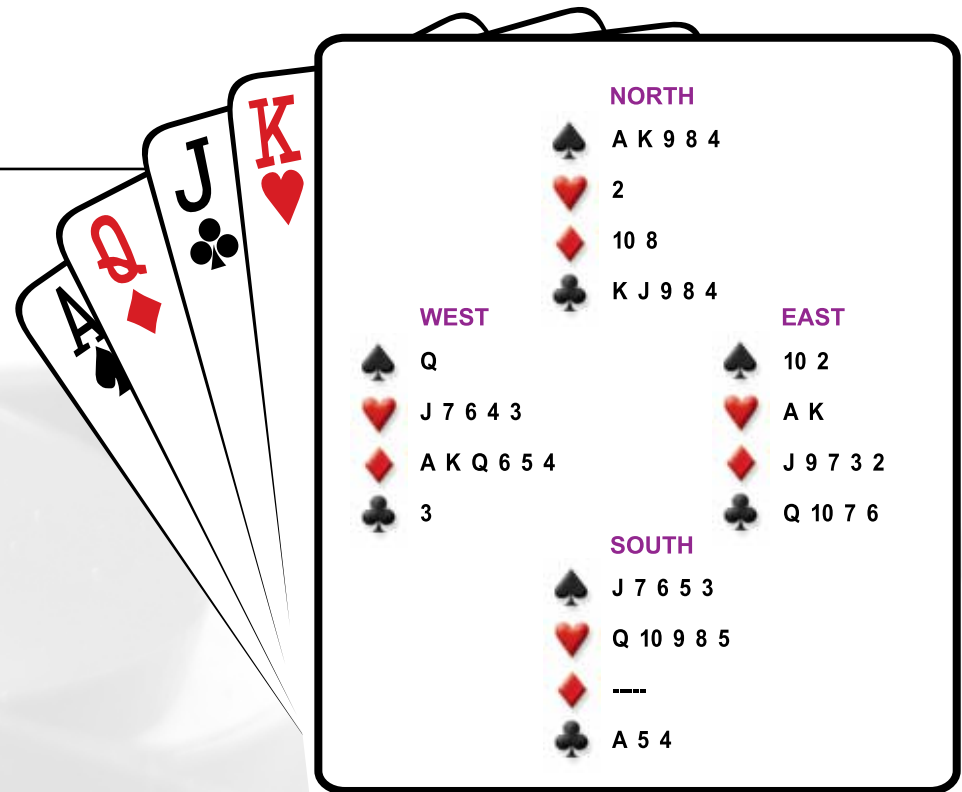
"Easy," said Sam, smug as ever, "the void – that was huge."

"Still, as South you had only 7 high-card points and since your partner followed West's opening bid, you couldn't count on him for real opening strength, so between the two of you, you couldn't even be sure that you had the majority of points," Flo objected. "How did figure you could make 5 Spades?"

"You're selling your own hand short," Sam explained. Like I said, the void in their suit was huge. Your partner doesn't know you have it, so he can't say 5 Spades – you have to be the one to do it. You really have opening strength yourself. Count the void for 4 and give yourself 2 extra points for the 5-card trump suit, one extra point for each card over three, and you have opening points yourself."

"But you were vulnerable, too," Flo objected. "Wasn't it too risky?"

"For your partner to bid Spades twice," Sam patiently explained, "he had to have some side values apart from Spades. You don't know whether they're in Hearts or Clubs, but it doesn't matter. You should know you have enough to take the contract and push the advantage that your suit is the major suit."



Both sides vulnerable; West Dealer

The bidding:	West	North	East	South
	1 Diamond	1 Spade	3 Diamonds	3 Spades
	4 Diamonds	4 Spades	Pass	Pass
	5 Diamonds	All pass		
Opening lead:	King of Spades			

YOUR PET'S HEALTH

By Dr. Randy Divine and Dr. Laura Baldwin



I notice my dog's eyes are looking cloudy lately.
What's going on and what should I do?

Changes in the color of the eye may indicate several different problems and I recommend bringing pets in as soon as possible for an eye exam. A grayish appearance to the cornea can be an indication of uveitis, an inflammation of the inside of the eye. Uveitis may be caused by infectious or inflammatory processes and is easily resolved when treated early through topical systemic medications. Since uveitis may be painful, prompt treatment is necessary to keep pets comfortable. Cataracts may also cause a grayish to whitish discoloration of the eye through loss of clarity of the lens. True cataracts decrease vision and when advanced result in blindness. Certain medical conditions like diabetes are associated with cataracts and for some breeds, cataracts and for some breeds, cataracts may be genetic. If caught early, surgery is available to resolve cataracts and improve vision. Nuclear sclerosis is a form of cataracts affecting the lens nucleus (center of lens) that is most commonly associated with aging.

Glaucoma (increased pressure inside the eye) is a painful condition in which the eye may appear cloudy with pronounced vessels in the white part of the eye (sclera). The eye may also appear enlarged or bulging (buphthalmic). If not treated rapidly, glaucoma eventually leads to blindness and most often results in surgery to remove the affected eye (enucleation).

Patients may have redness, cloudiness, or visual defects in the eye if a corneal ulcer or abrasion is present. Pets may be squinting frequently or have swollen eyelids or be seen attempting to rub or scratch the affected eye. Corneal ulcers may progress rapidly and pets need to be examined as soon as possible to save the eye as untreated ulcers can cause prolapses of the contents of the eye and loss of vision or enucleation surgery to remove the eye.

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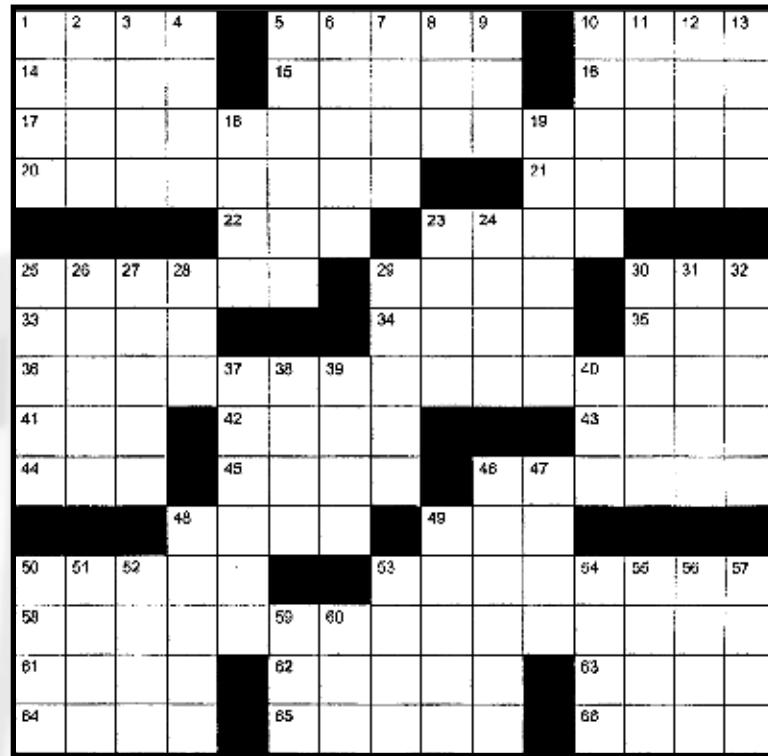
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Crossword

SOLUTIONS TO LAST ISSUE ON PAGE 59

CENTER COURT



The Christian Science Monitor | By John Cahill | Edited by Charles Preston

ACROSS

- 1 Bandy words
5 Up and doing
10 Penny
14 Autry or Shalit
15 Rhone tributary
16 Ernie's widow
17 Court jewelry
20 Trooper's targets
21 Actor's concern
22 O'Hare inits.
23 Heard at the Met
25 Black Sea villas
29 "An Iceland Fisherman" author
30 Line up
33 Apropos of
34 Ripener
35 Three, in Trapani
36 Potential winners
41 Embossing tool
42 Clarinet's cousin
43 Argyllshire island
44 Fraternal member
45 Disembark
46 "___ a grudge": resents
48 Prong
49 Dawn goddess
50 Not here

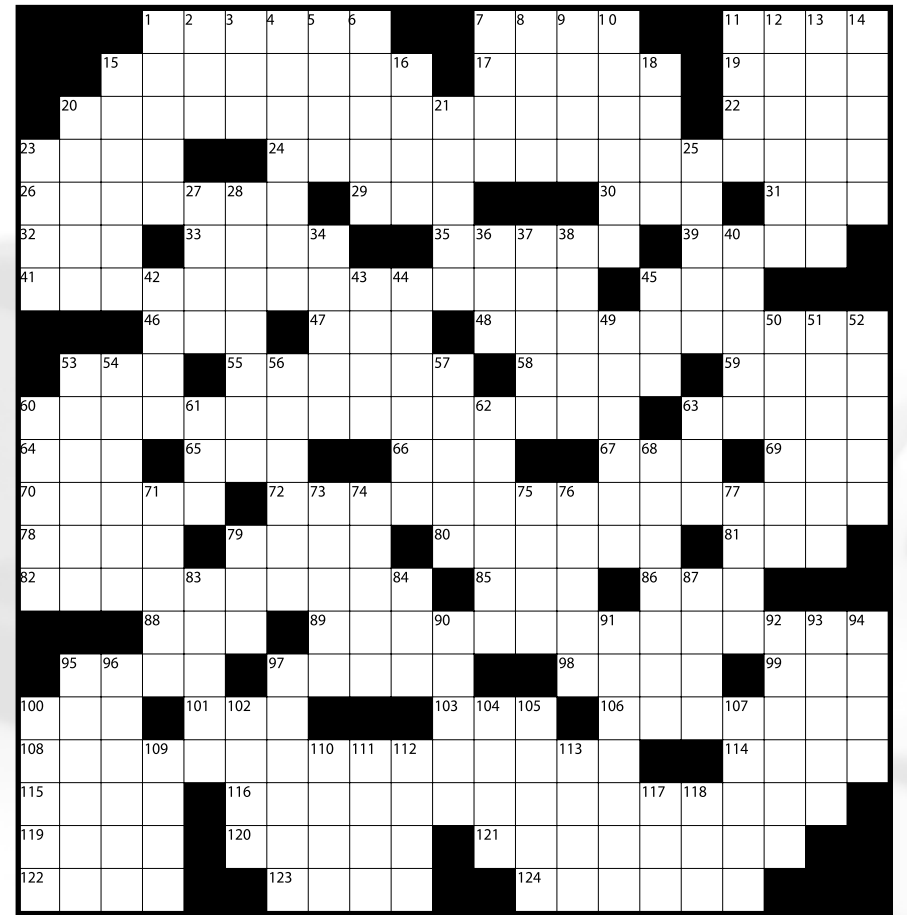
DOWN

- 53 Aardvark, e.g.
58 Receiver's concern
61 God of love
62 Clean the skillet
63 Cuzco Indian
64 Philosopher Immanuel
65 Estate segments
66 Dancer's pas
1 Some NCOs
2 Fledgling sound
3 Novelist Tyler
4 Descartes, e.g.
5 Black ink entries
6 Native-born Israeli
7 Rocky pinnacles
8 ___ nutshell
9 Room to play, for short
10 "As You Like It" role
11 Perfect garden
12 Word on a marquee
13 Classic Polanski film
18 Notion or conception
19 "Don Giovanni" soprano, Donna ___
23 Lad and Lassie
24 Gossip tidbit
25 Semiconductor
26 Unusual instrument in "Il Trovatore"
27 Estuary
28 Johnson beagle
29 Filled with freight
30 Milady's husband
31 Goodnight girl
32 Arizona feature
37 More saintly
38 Israeli diplomat
39 First-rate
40 "To ___ With Love"
46 Recorders
47 Employer
48 Confidence
49 Follow
50 Difficult journey
51 Juno's Greek counterpart
52 Harrow's rival
53 ___ effort
54 Rara ___
55 Shade of a color
56 ___ homo
57 Harvest
59 Campus org.
60 Now and then, briefly

ACROSS

- 1 Don't agree
7 Rob ___ (Scotch Manhattans)
11 Area meas.
15 Back-ordered?
17 Put on cloud 9
19 Old cry of despair
20 What Dad the CEO occupies?
22 Regan's dad
23 Sell with a yell
24 What Dad the investor is after?
26 Simple
29 Part of an immigrant's educ.
30 Covert org.
31 Dusk-dawn insert
32 "Meet the Press" guest, perh.
33 Affirmatives
35 Lorenzo or his actor dad
39 Tampa Bay players
41 What Dad the artist uses?
45 His dad is Atticus Finch
46 Titusville discovery
47 Bumper sticker, "That was Zen, this is ___"
48 Words from Dad the game show host?
53 Greek letter
55 Where Octavian beat Antony and Cleopatra in 31 B.C.
58 Light or dark subject
59 WWII pinup girl
60 Issue for Dad the professor?
63 Rehab of a sort
64 Coin-___
65 Greek letter
66 Fab Four's fifth, perhaps
67 Imitate
69 Infamous African
70 Hammer parts
72 Window sign for Dad the dry cleaner?
78 Radius companion
79 Seed covering
80 Brando, by birth
81 Old recorder format
82 Purchase by Dad the art teacher?
85 LAX news
86 First Republican prez
88 Removable floor covering
89 Concern of Dad the cashier?
95 Mrs. in a ghost story
97 From Iran or Iraq
98 Bosun's ___
99 Barbara Stanwyck film, "The Lady ___"
100 Aero finish
101 Salon stuff
103 In favor of, to a Clampett
106 Royal tomb of a sort
108 Job for Dad the doctor?
114 The Graf ___
115 A fan of
116 Father's Day reminder?
119 Knotted
120 Knot
121 Intersecting points
122 It's nothing
123 He played Tony on "NYPD Blue"
124 Previously, previously
DOWN
1 They're under blotters
2 Henri's here
3 ___ farm
4 Pinball hitter
5 Time-travel race
6 Actress Taylor
7 Used car of a sort
8 Sweden's Palme
9 Loud, harsh cry
10 Howard and Isaac
11 Lone
12 ___ keyboard
13 Raccoonlike carnivores
14 Sophie's portrayer
15 Ivanhoe's love
16 OR people
18 Love god
20 Discussion group
21 "The Most Happy ___"
23 Place to see 16 Down: abbr.
25 Kitchen tool
27 "Play Time" actor-director
28 Peeper protector
34 ___ voce
36 Artist Jean
37 Tony Rome's home
38 Some brayers
40 Plenty of
42 Deeply felt emotion
43 Evenhanded
44 Grey ___
45 Write quickly
49 Where siroccos blow
50 Around 11 p.m., perhaps
51 Oxidation sites
52 Graph line
53 Elvis's birthplace
54 Away
56 "Journey Into Healing" author
57 Diverti or penti ending
60 3-D, as some books
61 Return address?
62 Lodger
63 "Dose guys"

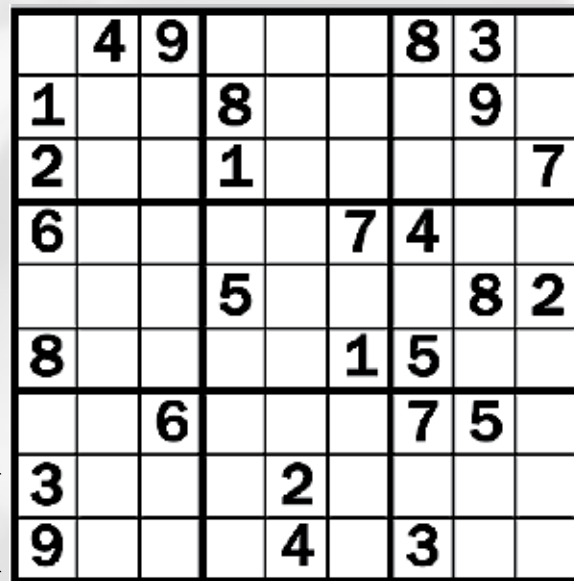
- 68 Infraction reaction
71 Model Campbell
73 Talks like Daffy
74 Mongolia's ___
75 Mountains
76 Warsaw Pact counterpart
77 Drugstore: abbr.
79 Currier's partner
83 Coen Brothers classic
84 Watcher of the skies: abbr.
87 Boxer Max
90 Ablaze, in Versailles
91 Tahitian port
92 Lures
93 College climbers
94 Surrender
95 Mass-wedding participant
96 Northern Irish province
97 ___ skiing
100 Dog with a saliva problem?
102 Actor Omar
104 1999 Ron Howard comedy
105 Indian coin
107 Good ___
109 Controversy
110 Some TVs
111 Louisiana veggie
112 E. ___
113 Siren sound, in the comics
117 Sloth, for one
118 Friendly introduction?



THE ORIGINS OF FATHERHOOD

By Merl Reagle

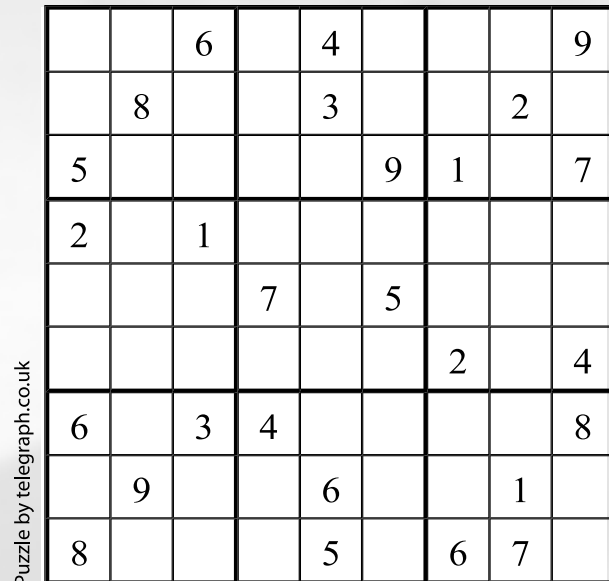
Sudoku



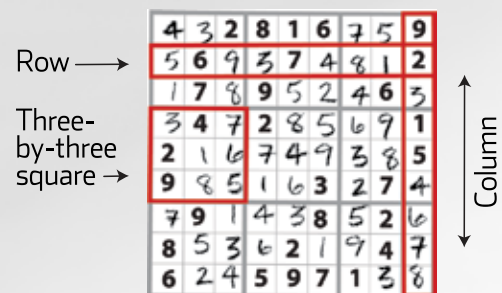
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How to do Sudoku:

Fill in the grid so the numbers 1 through 9 appear just once in every column, row and three-by-three square. See example (right).



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CHILDREN AND PARENTING IN THE 21st CENTURY

BY MEGHAN DAUM, LOS ANGELES TIMES

We are a child-obsessed nation. Manuals on how to produce and raise perfect offspring remain a bestselling literary genre. Celebrities get more attention for pregnancies than for Oscar nods. Even politicians have taken baby kissing to new heights. Mike Huckabee, for one, thinks legalized abortion is a major cause of illegal immigration.

But reports in recent weeks have suggested that the pitter-patter of little feet can sound more like a jackhammer — and not just to the far-flung, vacation-taking, disposable-income-flashing, pet-doting heathens known as the childless-by-choice crowd.

A July 4 New York Magazine cover story cited numerous studies showing that people with children are no happier than people without them, and in some cases are less so, and offered up a litany of grim data proving that contemporary childrearing lacks the soft-focus reverie of a Pampers commercial.

There is, for instance, the study of 909 Texas women who ranked child care 16th in pleasurability out of a list of 19 activities (housework placed higher). There's the study wherein long-married couples documented their disagreements and found that 40% of their arguments were about their kids.

Then there's the Scottish paper published last year in the Journal of Happiness Studies (yes, this is a real journal; no, Gwyneth Paltrow has not graced the cover) whose findings had to be retracted after a coding error rendered a previously published assertion — that life satisfaction increased when people had children and improved when they had even more — flatly wrong.

The corrected phrasing: "The effect of children on the life satisfaction of married individuals is small, often negative, and never statistically significant."

On top of that, a new Pew study shows that the number of women forgoing motherhood has nearly doubled since 1976. Back then, 10% of women ages 40 to 44 had never had children. Today the figure is 18%. And sorry, Mike Huckabee, it's not because they're getting abortions and depriving our factories and fields of red-blooded American workers.

According to data from the Guttmacher Institute, 61% of women who terminate pregnancies already have one or more children. As for the camp that worries about how lack of fecundity among educated American elites will cause a birth dearth on a par with certain European countries, the Pew study showed that childlessness among women with advanced degrees has decreased since 1994, dipping from 31% to 24%.

But that stat is an outlier. For most of us, parenthood seems to be suffering a bit of an image crisis — and not only because times are hard. To my mind, the most compelling explanation comes from psychologists W. Keith Campbell and Jean Twenge, cited in the New York Magazine article.

They conducted a study of children and marital satisfaction reaching back to the 1970s and found, writes Senior, "that every successive generation was more put out by having them than the last — our current one most of all."

The chief reason, the researchers said, is that each generation marries and starts families at a later age than the last. In other words, parents of young kids today have had a bigger taste of freedom — and therefore feel the loss of it more acutely — than their parents did. Hence that distinctly 21st century malady known as having nostalgia for your freewheeling 30s.

But before we infer from all this that those 18% of women who are likely to remain childless have simply outsmarted their weary counterparts, perhaps we should revisit the logic of our friend Mike Huckabee.

If, as he seems to be suggesting, having more children will eliminate the need for immigrant labor, doesn't it stand to reason that at least some of the costs of raising kids could be recouped by using them to amplify our freedom? As live-in house cleaners, perhaps?

Given the proper training, couldn't they graduate into being their own nannies, allowing their parents to gallivant among wine bars and late-night concerts and then return home to polished floors and folded laundry? Suddenly this parenting thing is sounding a whole lot better.



Church organ gives history, voice to worshipers



BY REV. DRs. CASEY AND BOB BAGGOTT
COLUMNISTS

Here's a riddle: What relies on stops to run, whispers and roars, can make us laugh or cry, and needs lots of air? If you guessed the pipe organ, the king of musical instruments, you were right.

Recently we dedicated a brand new Lively-Fulcher organ in our church's sanctuary. Its diverse array of four-thousand plus pipes will sound to lead us in worship, undergird our singing, and help us

tended to last for hundreds of years, accompanying a congregation and the community it serves through many, many lifetimes.

Countless life-events will be marked by our new organ as it offers its voice for weddings, confirmations, baptisms, memorial services, and even ordinary but sustaining weekly worship.

And our new organ will offer its full, rich, complex voice for concerts

to express the full content of our hearts and souls — from joyful praise, to deepest lament, and every believer's awe and wonderment.

Watching the planning, design, construction, assembly, and tuning of such a fine instrument has been thrilling because this will surely be a once in a lifetime experience. Such masterpieces as these great organs are in-

as well.

We may take for granted that sort of intimate linkage between churches and organs. We may think that organs are a nearly mandatory component of Christian worship, but it hasn't always been so.

Music has a long and strong link to worship across the ages, of course. Historians note that in pre-Christianeras lutes, lyres, drums and bells were used to accompany worshipers.

But interestingly, the earliest Christians typically used none of these in worship. They most often used only their voices, without accompaniment. In fact the term, "a capella," literally means "in the manner of the chapel," that is voices singing without musical instruments.

But as these early Christians were perfecting their simple vocal harmonies, in Byzantium emperors were commissioning the construction of dramatic, air-driven pipe organs for state occasions. In the year 757 an eastern emperor sent one of his pipe organs as a gift to the King of the Franks, the father of Charlemagne.

Over the next two centuries, European monks became the most skilled builders of the kings' grand pipe organs. Finally, when one of these organ building monks went on to become Pope Sylvester II in 999,

the organ made its firm and final leap to the church.

To theologians the linkage seemed destined. Throughout the latter Middle Ages, theologians made frequent analogies between the organ and the cosmos. They compared the mechanical and tonal intricacy of the organ to the interconnectedness of the components of the created order. The wind power of the instrument was, for them, a reminder of the wind from God that hovered over the very waters of creation and brought the world into being.

Although today we have other machinery that rivals the mechanical complexity of an organ, and guitars and synthesizers are to be found in churches along with these grand instruments, the linkage of church and organ seems permanent. After all, where is it more appropriate than in the worship of God, to pull out all the stops?

Rev. Dr. Robert Baggott is Senior Minister of Community Church of Vero Beach. Rev. Dr. Casey Baggott is Executive Minister. The Baggotts rite a regular faith column for Vero Beach 32963

Tax breaks on contributions to religious schools under fire

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The United States has a long tradition of allowing tax breaks for charitable contributions, including donations to churches and other religious organizations.

But the San Francisco-based U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has concluded that a program that offers tax credits for contributions to provide scholarships for private schools breaches the wall separating church and state. It's a tortured decision that the Supreme Court recently agreed to review.

For 13 years Arizona has offered a tax credit — up to \$500 for individu-

als and \$1,000 to married couples — for contributions to so-called school tuition organizations that provide scholarships to private schools so long as they don't discriminate on the basis of race, color, handicap, familial status or national origin.

Missing from that list is religion, and according to those challenging the law, most contributions were to organizations that awarded scholarships usable only at religious schools. Based on the facts presented by the opponents, the 9th Circuit concluded that the law favored religion in violation of the 1st Amendment.

According to the court, the fact that the law disproportionately benefited religious schools suggest-

ed that its neutral language was a "sham" and that in practice the law discriminated against parents who preferred secular schools.

But in a 2002 decision upholding a voucher program in Cleveland, the Supreme Court said that the program wasn't unconstitutional just because more parents chose to use the vouchers at religious schools. The same logic applies to the scholarships offered by school tuition organizations.

The appeals court offered another, equally strained, argument: that tax credits like those offered by Arizona represent more of a constitutional problem than tax deductions for contributions to churches and religious schools. That's a distinc-

tion without a difference: Both sorts of tax breaks are paid for by citizens.

Religious schools contribute to the diversity of education in this country, and especially in inner cities, they provide an alternative to inferior public schools (and often accept children of other faiths). If nonsectarian private schools are to benefit from tax credits, so should they.

Of course, the question for the courts isn't whether programs like Arizona's are good policy but whether they violate the Constitution. The 9th Circuit's ruling is unpersuasive on that point, and it is likely to have its wrist slapped by the Supreme Court. It will be a deserved reprimand.

Style

Rediscovering millinery: Hats for all seasons

LOS ANGELES TIMES

At the beginning of the 20th century, millinery was so commonplace that many women decorated their own hats. But with the social movements of the late 1960s, fashion became more casual and upscale hats fell by the wayside.

Today, there are only a handful of famous milliners, notably Brits Stephen Jones and Philip Treacy and recent Target collaborator Eugenia Kim, based in New York. But over the last few years, hats have started to come back into vogue, and now L.A. native Rehn Dudukgian, 28, is hoping to join the roster of great hat designers with Bijou Van Ness, her new line of couture creations that fuse the romance of 20th century European fashion with pure Hollywood glamour.

"A lot of people say that millinery is a dying art," said Dudukgian, who



Rehn Dudukgian with some of her Bijou Van Ness hats.

credits "Mad Men" and Dita Von Teese with fashion's renewed interest in vintage-style hats. "But a

cal experts. In December 2009, she launched the handmade line, named after the street where she lives in Hollywood.

Her hats, which range in price from \$150 to \$395, feature pure silks, fine crystals and vintage brooches. There's a classic 1920s-style cloche with a triple loop black bow, a wide-brimmed white parasol straw hat with an oversize black flower and charming birdcage wire veil adorned with peonies.

"I never imagined I'd be in fashion," said Dudukgian, a UCLA graduate who worked as an assistant underwriting manager for Countrywide for two years before receiving her MBA at UC Irvine in 2007. "My business background paid off because it helped me create a brand and transform my passion into a company."



Derby by Bijou Van Ness.

well-constructed hat stands the test of time and can be passed on from generation to generation."

Inspired by her mother's vintage hat collection from the 1960s, Dudukgian, researched millinery online and took classes from lo-

Dudukgian's timing is just right. Hats are having a major moment in fashion, from the ubiquitous straw styles seen all over town to the more formal wide-brim versions found at the Del Mar racetrack and at summer weddings.

Style



Belle Cloche by Bijou Van Ness.



Floppy by Bijou Van Ness.

"Hats are a really easy and, more importantly, affordable way to make an otherwise basic outfit into a bolder, more stylish one," said Margot Nason, editor of the Intelligence Group's trendcentral.com. "And more dramatic headwear, like that worn by Lady Gaga, and more formal headwear as seen on 'Mad Men,' enable wearers to transport themselves to a different era."

Nason noted that for both men

and women, fashion has been trending away from the "artfully disheveled" look and is moving toward a more traditional aesthetic.

"Our customers are gravitating towards styles with a contemporary look and feel, like Panama hats and straw fedoras," said Brooke Jaffe Scott, Bloomingdale's accessories fashion director. "It's important to our customer that she protects her skin in the sun, while looking chic and modern at the same time."

As customers increasingly shop from the same mass retailers, those wanting to stand out often turn to accessories to define a look. "I think fashion goes in cycles, and in this time of recession we are selling more accessories than ever," said Traffic buyer Steven Torres, who stocks Bijou Van Ness at the Beverly Center store. "Hats are great because it can make the whole outfit and you'll be noticed." K. Plastnina on Robertson

also carries the line.

Each Bijou Van Ness hat, which can take six hours on average to make, is lined in purple fabric, the designer's signature color. And while most would agree that Dudukgian's creations are chic, many women start out thinking they don't look good in hats or that they can't pull off the look.

"There's definitely a hat for every lady, so I would say they haven't found the right style yet," said Dudukgian, who has designed hats for Perez Hilton, Jennifer Love Hewitt and Von Teese. "I think if a woman wore one of my hats her whole look would change, as would her whole evening, because a woman who wears a hat conjures up glamour, sophistication and a little mystery."

For fall, Dudukgian is creating 20 styles and adding bridal to the mix. "I'm using more feathers, velour felt, darker colors and gabardine wool from England," she said.

Dudukgian has joined the recently formed Millinery Guild of Southern California, which has 24 members. The monthly meetings, run by local milliner S. Montez Murphy, offer



Au Revoir Monsieur by Bijou Van Ness.

technique classes, study groups and general networking.

"My hats tap into the glamour of the past, and I feel so inspired by L.A.," said Dudukgian, who enjoys shopping at the Way We Wore on La Brea Avenue and Santa Monica's Vintage Expo when she's not working. "I'm not saying that we should wear hats 24/7, but I think when you're dressing up, it adds something to your outfit and shows your personality."

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Style

Hats a la mode! Choosing one right for you

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Hats are a *la mode* this season, whether on the beach or the catwalk.

On the beach, savvy sun worshipers know that a hat will protect the scalp from burning and peeling while

shading the face, neck and ears. On the catwalk, Dior's haute couture collection for spring-summer 2010 featured tilted-top hats with dainty veils attached. For this same season, the always-cheeky Isaac Mizrahi designed his own spin on the boater with a casual straw tone for day, and satin black and silver for evening.



Ask the Hair Guy

Mark Rodolico

Colorist / Stylist

www.askthehairguy.com

A word from The Hair Guy: *I had a great time this past weekend with all of my incredible staff and the awesome models that participated in our big portfolio photo shoot. Photos will be posted on our website soon. Look for it along with our unadvertised specials. www.marksatthepointe.com*

Question: *Dear Hair Guy, What is all the buzz about this INOA hair color and what's your take?* -- Andrea B. Vero Beach

Answer: Well A.B., like one of my clients told me the other day, "Two of the most significant changes in the life of women in the past 100 years are birth control and hair color!" Now, I am not sure what to say to all that, but I must agree that people have been in hot pursuit of a better hair color for years. I don't use INOA and I can't recommend it. Some of the great and respected minds in hair color today have spoken out about this type of technology and lets be honest, at 15% to 20% higher average price tag and the fact that this is truly not the first ammonia free hair color in our hemisphere, I for one am skeptical that this is the revolution the company would have us believe it is. The idea behind any hair color is three fold. First you must open and soften the outer surface of the hair. Second,

if necessary, remove natural pigment to make room for the new color. Third, deposit and seal in the new color molecules. Oil based drivers used with heat have been in use for years, products like, organic color systems (have 65 colors Vs. the new guys 49), and products like TCA (The Color Accelerator For Hair Coloring) have an oil additive that has been used for years to drive and accelerate hair color. If I had the room I could go on for pages. Look, I'm not saying it's a bad idea, I'm just saying that simply because a giant corporation claims that they reinvented the wheel does not make it true. I use no less than 2 different Amonia Free colors in my arsenal now at 15% to 20% less cost. I'm a big fan of innovation, but I am not sold yet!

Keep those questions coming!
www.askthehairguy.com

*Mark's at the Pointe Salon & Boutique is home of The Hair Guy.
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Dior's haute couture collection for spring-summer 2010.

Something light-weight. When we build summer hats, we use a lot of different straw, Panama and Paglina. Though that's not always the case. There's not a true rule of thumb. Southern California is interesting, because we have a unique climate. We sell, for example, felt hats during the summer months too.

What would you recommend for the beach or the pool?

I'd show a customer what we'd call a blank. It's a floppy hat made of hand-woven Panama straw. It's oversized and provides great coverage. They can choose a grosgrain band and take it with them right away. We can always add embellishments to suit the customer too.

For some insight into how to choose a hat, we turned to Mark Mejia, owner of Burbank's Baron Hats, <http://www.baron-hats.com>. He's created bespoke beauties for Bruce Willis (he loves his straw Panamas) and for Kate Hudson and Jessica Alba, most recently for the flick "The Killer Inside Me."

For those who dream of attending the Kentucky Derby or Royal Ascot channeling Eliza Doolittle, Mejia even has a My Fair Lady collection, inspired by the film. Having made more than 2,800 hats for movies and television and countless pieces for the public, he's an acknowledged expert in the millinery field.

What's the trend for this year's summer hats?



Dior's haute couture collection for spring-summer 2010.

Style



Dior's haute couture collection for spring-summer 2010.



Dior's haute couture collection for spring-summer 2010.



Dior spring-summer 2010.

trum, if you have a round face, you don't want to buy anything squatty. A stingy brim with a flattop is recom-

mended. If the shop truly knows their hats, request a pork-pie crown and they'll give you exactly what you're looking for.

Can a woman wear a man's hat?

Absolutely! I think women look better than men in hats. A fedora on a woman is unbelievable, done correctly. They are very sexy.

Hats have made quite a comeback. When did you notice the trend begin to boom?

About five or six years ago. Hats have been coming back more than ever in the past decade. It's fashionable and accessible. Fifteen years ago, you were making too much of a

statement [if you wore a hat]. People felt inhibited.

So, can anyone wear a hat?

Definitely. It's an individual process. Your face is involved, so it's particular to you. Try enough of them on and have someone help you get the right fit. You'll walk away happy.

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Style

Dolce & Gabbana reflect on 20 years in fashion



Designers Stefano Gabbana, left, and Domenico Dolce.

BY ADAM TSCHORN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Designers Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana were the toast of the town during last month's men's fashion week in Milan. It wasn't just because of their 20th anniversary menswear show, which included Morgan Freeman in the audience and Annie Lennox at the piano — it was the star-studded red carpet

gala that followed later that evening and a three-day public exhibit at Palazzo Marino (Milan's city hall) that featured rows of gleaming Apple iPads, flickering TV sets and the tools of the tailoring trade that once belonged in the atelier of Dolce's father.

Three days later, the Gabbana half of the design duo shared some of his thoughts on what's changed since they sent

their first menswear collection down the runway in January 1990, five years after launching as a women's line. Sitting in the company's Via San Damiano headquarters in Milan, on a red velvet couch the size of an automobile, surrounded by a sea of leopard-print wallpaper and curtains and flanked by autographed photos of Nicole Kidman and framed Madonna album covers, Gabbana spoke of slim white shirts, Da-



Dolce & Gabbana Spring / Summer 2011



Dolce & Gabbana Spring / Summer 2011



Dolce & Gabbana Spring / Summer 2011

way because of the adrenaline. We will work until the end of July and then take the month of August off.

Q: When it comes to inspiration and design, are the men's and women's collections conceived of together?

A: The collections are completely different, but sometimes the moods will be similar. And since the men's show is at the end of June, we have all of July, August and September to further develop and change the idea, to try different things [for the women's collection].

Q: How did the men's side of the Dolce & Gabbana label come about in the first place?

A: We decided to make men's because we had a hard time finding clothes we could wear. At the time we wore Japanese designers like Comme des Garçons and Yohji Yamamoto, but I couldn't find white shirts that were just a little bit slim, and unconstructed jackets without shoulder [pads], so we started to make them ourselves. And when our friends started asking about the clothes and where we got them, we decided to start doing a men's collection.

Q: What has changed the most since that first menswear collection hit the runway in January 1990?

A: It has totally changed — the roots are the same and the taste is the same, but that was 20 years ago.

Men used to have these Superman

vid Beckham and Twitter.

Question: Do you take any time off between working on the men's collections and the women's collections?

Answer: Tomorrow we go to Moscow for a party celebrating the D&G store opening. After we come back from Moscow, I'll take about three days off, then it's right into the women's. I prefer it that

Style

The Beachside Bargainista

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Dolce & Gabbana Spring / Summer 2011

bodies when we started — like body-builders. Proportions have changed, and men's bodies are sporty but not built like they were before. People are healthier and more body conscious. Even the black suit has changed because it's more slim now — but at least the tank top hasn't changed!

Q: Dolce & Gabbana has always been able to leverage celebrity. Over the years, who has had the biggest effect on your menswear business?

A: Things really started to change in men's when we started to work occasionally with David Beckham. He was the channel we needed to speak to men. Here was a soccer player who is straight, with a wife and children, and men were saying: "If he wore it, I can wear it too." Before that it felt like men's fashion was just for gay men or strange people — men were afraid to wear something special.

Q: How did Annie Lennox become involved in your 20th anniversary menswear show?

A: Making a fashion show is difficult, because you aren't just presenting a new collection, you're trying to make an emotional connection. The customer needs that. We were reminded of that about a year ago. So when we started working on this collection, we wanted something that would be quiet, almost relaxing, but powerful at the same time. And that made us think of Annie Lennox. We didn't think she would do it, but we asked her and she said yes.

Q: What happened a year ago that made you rethink how you connect with the customer?

A: This was about the women's not the men's, but we received an anonymous letter from a customer that said: "Where are Dolce and Gabbana, and why don't

you make the real Dolce & Gabbana [label] anymore?" That was kind of a shock because we were so focused on always looking for the new, we left the rest behind. So this was a real moment for us to stop and look back at who we are and to focus more on the customer and not the trend. Right now we don't care about trends.

Q: You were some of the earlier designers to embrace the blog culture and social networking. Why?

A: Two years ago, we were the first to invite bloggers to sit in the front row at our shows. We understand what people want — it's another point of view and it's democratic information. Now we also post short videos to YouTube right before we show a collection, because that is our chance to speak directly to the consumer. It is our point of view, just like the newspaper or magazine is the point of view of the journalist. There is room for all of it.

Q: And now you use Twitter, right?

A: Yes, sometimes I'll use Twitter to ask whether people prefer black or white, corset or no corset. Two months ago, I took a picture of a flower and some said: "Why don't you use that on a fabric?"

Q: Do people know it's actually you?

A: Yes, but sometimes they'll ask: "Is it really you?" We have a separate account for Dolce & Gabbana PR, [@stefanogabbana](https://twitter.com/stefanogabbana) is my own, and I don't just talk about work, I talk about my dog, my dinner, my friends, the sunset. I love to work between technology and tradition. If you find the balance, it's interesting. You don't want to lose the tradition but you don't want to ignore the new.

Later, Dolce, co-founder and partner in the Dolce & Gabbana brand, responded through his publicist about the importance of including items from his father's atelier in the 20th anniversary exhibit in Milan.

Domenico Dolce [via e-mail]: That's my father's certificate from the Palermo tailor school, which my father attended and graduated from in the early 1930s. The Milan exhibit also featured the mirror of my father's atelier. I am very attached to both, I learned from my father the art of tailoring. I grew up among fabrics and patterns, and at age 7 I was already able to make a pair of trousers. ... At Palazzo Marino, the tailor's installation, in contrast with the technology of the other rooms, is a way to say thank you to what tradition and roots represent and have represented for me. I do not forget roots and that certificate is maybe the symbol. I am very attached to it and I keep it in my personal atelier; where I do the initial fittings for the collection.

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Dining

Restaurant Review

Havana Nights: Nice spot for an intimate dinner



The smoked salmon is one of the dishes available at Havana Nights alongside the Maison Martinique's full menu. Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY TINA RONDEAU
COLUMNIST

This summer, many restaurants seem to be struggling – and even some of Vero's best restaurants are offering special menus for those watching their dollars. One that caught our eye was the prix fixe menu at Maison Martinique.

Since entrees at Maison Martinique tend to run \$30 or more, the idea of a soup or salad, entrée and dessert for \$28 seemed tempting. While it took two visits before we actually gave the prix fixe menu a try, the second effort introduced us to the idea of dining at a spot we had not sampled before: the Havana Nights Piano Bar.

We did not start out planning to dine at Havana Nights. We phoned Maison Martinique on a Wednesday afternoon to make a dinner reservation; then shortly before leaving, we got a call. They had no other dinner reservations for the evening, we were told, so the main restaurant was going to be closed – but we could order dishes from the Maison Martinique menu upstairs in

Havana Nights.

So off we went. For those who have not tried it, Havana Nights is a warm, inviting room sitting at the top of a flight of stairs above Maison Martinique (there is also a small elevator). We were offered our choice of the three cozy white banquettes on one side of the room (there are also a half dozen tables, as well as bar seating), and were soon joined in the room by several other parties.

While Havana Nights offers its own menu of light French, Spanish and Caribbean-inspired suppers (kind

of like a tapas bar), on this evening we were determined to sample the Maison Martinique prix fixe menu.

For starters, I had the house salad and my husband had the Caesar. Both were excellent. We then had a choice of five entrees (which vary from week to week. More on that later.) I picked the shrimp curry, very tasty shrimp in a mild curry sauce, and my husband had the trout almandine – trout pan-fried in butter topped with nicely browned almonds.

For dessert, I opted for the chocolate mousse – a sinfully rich dark chocolate concoction – and my husband enjoyed a refreshingly tangy lemon sorbet. For a modest additional cost, we accompanied dessert with excellent espressos.

The bottom line here is that no Vero restaurant does French sauces as well as Maison Martinique. And if there is a dish on the prix fixe menu that catches your fancy – and there were two on this evening – this is an excellent dining value.

That brings us back to our first effort to try the prix fixe menu on a Saturday night a couple of weeks earlier. When we arrived for our 7:30 reservation, we

were pleased to find the restaurant Maison Martinique encouragingly full. (We later were told that the Saturday turnout was greater than all the other evenings that week combined.)

The five entrée choices on the prix fixe menu that night were lemon chicken; grilled or blackened mahi-mahi; grilled lamb chops; shrimp & bananas; or sweet bread chanterelle. We focused in with laser-like intensity on the lamb chops.

Then we heard the waiter telling the folks at the next table that unfortu-



nately, the lamb chops on the prix fixe menu were already sold out. Floundering around for a second choice (none of the other entrees really excited us), we pretty quickly drifted away from the summer "deal" and wandered back to Maison Martinique's regular menu.

My husband decided that instead of the house or Caesar salads that you are restricted to on the prix fixe, he would opt for the celery root salad (\$10). I followed him off the prix fixe reservation and ordered the Sliced Red & Yellow Tomatoes salad (\$10), garnished with red Onions & Goat Cheese Balsamic Vinaigrette. Both were excellent.

For a main course, my husband went straight for the Grilled Angus Tenderloin (\$38) with a

beef gorgonzola sauce. I opted for the sautéed shrimp with Andouille sausage (\$32) in a Créole mustard rum sauce. The filet was melt-in-your-mouth delicious with a great assist from the gorgonzola. The shrimp and Andouille sausage combination was perfection.

The only caveat I would offer about the entrees is that the chef has a bit of a

heavy hand with the salt – a comment we have heard from other recent diners.

On this evening, neither of us really was up for dessert, so we concluded the meal with an espresso.

The bottom line is that ordering off the Maison Martinique menu – rather than going with the prix fixe – ran us \$96 before wine, coffee and tip. Not bad, but this makes the prix fixe three-course dinners (at \$56 for two) a real bargain.

But the best part of this experiment

was the accidental experience of dining at Havana Nights. While we had always thought of it as a place to go for a pre-dinner drink or a nightcap, it offers a great ambience for an intimate dinner as well. And while the piano is always playing, the music is not at all intrusive.

If you have not visited Havana Nights for a light dinner, summer weekday evenings are a great time to give it a try.

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

A British expert talks about American wines

BY DAVE MCINTYRE
WASHINGTON POST

Oz Clarke began performing as soon as he came through the door.

"Do you know Tammy?" he asked, his British baritone echoing through my house. "I was on the ferry to Tangier when I was 16 years old, and I met a lovely young girl named Tammy, from Silver Spring, Maryland. Only met her for an hour, but I've been thinking of her ever since."

Well, Silver Spring, Maryland is a rather large area, I explained, and no, I don't know anyone named Tangier Tammy. So I offered him a glass of wine as consolation.

Clarke toured with the Royal Shakespeare Company before turning his energy to wine in the mid-1980s. Since then, he has authored dozens of books and hosted numerous television series, putting him alongside Hugh Johnson and Jancis Robinson in the ranks of Britain's most prolific wine writers.

His "Grapes & Wine" (co-authored with Margaret Rand), published in 2001 and revised several times since, was just released for the first time in the United States. Another book, "Oz Clarke's Let Me Talk to You About Wine," will debut on this side of the pond in October. (Disclosure: I contribute entries on eastern U.S. wineries to Clarke's annual "Pocket Wine Book.")

Clarke writes in an energetic and engagingly personable style that enlivens what can too often be a very dull genre. My other guests and I received the full Oz over an evening that included a tasting of more than 30 wines from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North



Oz Clarke giving one of his celebrated and energetic conversations on wine.

Carolina, Michigan, Ohio and Arizona.

Here are snippets of a very wide-ranging conversation in which he discussed U.S. wines from an outsider's, but expert, perspective.

On terroir: "Terroir is an excuse for wine tasting like an arm pit. 'Oh, that's how it's supposed to taste, old boy!'"

On minerality: "Minerality is one of the great canards. I love minerality

when it's rocks and pebbles, like you rub your tongue against wet stones and you taste the minerals, the chalk, the granite. But a mouthful of wet mud is not the minerality you want. Unless it's Pomerol, of course."

On overripe wines: "Phenolic ripeness is another canard. People make wine so ripe 'because we can,' and then they water it down to reduce the alcohol. They say it's the pure ripeness of the grape. No, it isn't: It's the death throes of a grape that is shriveling on the vine."

On buying local wine: "When you have a developing wine culture, you have to be willing to pay a few dollars more for a boutique wine, as an investment in the future. And stop saying it should taste like something else. 'Should' is a word that shouldn't be in our vocabulary when you have people trying to make a go where no one has done it before."

On innovation in wine: "The wine world is coming up with new classics all the time – New Zealand sauvignon blanc, Argentine malbec, Virginia viognier. In the last two years I've tasted enough Virginia viognier that I'm convinced they can match the best viogniers in the world. If Virginia has a few more vintages like 2007, look out."

"And the 2005 nebbiolo – a new classic? No, it was only one vintage. But, wow, boys and girls, what were you thinking when you planted that grape? Those wines are terrific."

After so much talk of canards, I was tempted to open a bottle of Duckhorn merlot, just to keep the evening going further into morning. Instead, I waved the white napkin of surrender. I could not outperform the great and powerful Oz.

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Real Estate

Three acres, two houses and horses on the beach



Nestled among seagrape and dunes, the main house of this 3-acre oceanfront estate offers great views and ample parking and storage underneath for cars, boats and other watercraft.
Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

BY LISA ZAHNER
STAFF WRITER

Tucked behind a navy blue Treasure Coast Sotheby's "for sale" sign just south of The Dunes in South Beach is a gate which leads to an ultra-private, equestrian oceanfront retreat just waiting for a new owner, some horses and some tender loving care.

With grandfathered-in rights to keep horses in a residential neighborhood and a three-acre expanse of oceanfront land, this compound presents a truly unique project for a buyer searching for a distinctive residence or even for an investment in property to be subdivided in the future.

"The big deal is an equestrian compound in the middle of all this devel-

opment," said broker-owner Michael Thorpe. "Nobody has any idea what's back here behind the gate."

Thorpe said the zoning density is three units per acre, which would permit a cozy wooded enclave of single-family homes to be constructed on the property.

"Whether they live here, or even if they look at it as an investment, to develop 10 or 20 years down the road

With grandfathered-in rights to keep horses in a residential neighborhood and a three-acre expanse of oceanfront land, this compound presents a truly unique project for a buyer searching for a distinctive residence or even for an investment in property to be subdivided in the future.

into a subdivision," Thorpe said. "It's close to everything in the community, it's close to amenities and it's close to St. Edward's School, but with a sense of ambiance and country living."

Spanning 1,500 feet back to the sea grape-covered dune and sandy beach, the lushly landscaped estate invites the visitor in via a winding path through old oaks and palms, past horse paddocks and a path through the jungle leading to four stables and a utility building with kitchenette and bathroom.

The guest house appears first, built in 1949 with wood-paneled walls and hardwood floors. The charming 2-bedroom cabana was the original house on the property before a larger, two-story main house was constructed in the 1980s closer to the beach.

Thorpe said there has been a trend of barrier island residents purchasing equestrian properties west of town in order to have the dual beachside and pastoral lifestyles. The property

Real Estate



The view of the great room of the main house from the catwalk above shows the massive coquina rock fireplace and spiral staircase leading to a spacious loft, which can double as a third bedroom.



The rustic feel of the property is enhanced by a loop of horse trails, three private stalls and outbuildings designed for keeping or boarding horses.

he has listed for sale serves both of those purposes in one parcel, complete with a loop of trails for riding and opportunities to ride horses on the beach.

"If he wants a beach house and she wants horses, this place can help them come together," he said.

Thorpe's business partner Kimberly Hardin said recent buyers have recognized the value and the nearly extinct nature of this plot of wooded oceanfront.

"We've had a flurry of activity and several offers," Hardin said.

Thorpe said the sellers reduced the price from \$7 million to \$5 million when his brokerage took over the listing. For comparison, Thorpe said parcels of unimproved oceanfront property in the South Beach area are selling for \$1.5 to \$2 million for one-half acre of land. The lot boasts about 100 feet of oceanfront and then expands out to about 200 feet wide the closer you get to State Road A1A to accommodate a brisk walk or to exercise the horses.

The current owners carefully planned out the space to preserve the seclusion of the main residence and guest house while providing enough space to house and care for their horses. They constructed individual, large horse stalls and a few outbuildings for storage and convenience. Should the new owners wish to hire someone to look after the grounds and the horses, there is plenty of space to erect another small residence for a caretaker's quarters.

"You could keep or even board horses here," Thorpe said.

After living on and keeping horses on the land for nearly eight years, the family who once occupied the compound relocated to a home they owned in South Florida after the 2004 hurricanes.

"They evacuated and there was some hurricane damage when they returned, they had some interests down south of here and decided to stay there," Thorpe said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 58

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Real Estate



Due to the hurricane damage, the Two horse paddocks offer space for horses to meander or exercise, the property comes with grandfathered-in rights to keep horses in a residential neighborhood.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57



An aerial photo of the 3-acre equestrian compound shows 100-feet of oceanfront, expanding to 200-feet of frontage on A-1-A and a full 1,500 feet in length from the entry gate to the sandy beach.

property is being sold “as is.” Despite the cracked windows, broken sliders and overgrown foliage, the lovely wood-planked ceilings in the main house and the hardwood floors in the guesthouse appear to be in good condition. The massive coquina rock fireplace in the main house graces the great room and a stone fireplace also makes the vintage guest house more homey and comfortable.

A spiral staircase in the main house closest to the ocean leads to a spacious loft and a catwalk which

VOTE: Peter O'Bryan
for County Commission Dist. 4 (Rep.)



Voted to lower property taxes 3 years in a row as County Commissioner.

Awarded the Indian River County Economic Development award by the Chamber of Commerce.

Initiated an improved jobs grant program that is attracting technology based businesses and creating jobs.

www.VotePeterOBryan.com

VOTE: **Dale Simchick**
for County Commission Dist. 2 (Rep.)

*Reduced City of Sebastian taxes
while on the Sebastian City Council.*

*Served in the U.S. Marine Corps
Reserve.*

*Will strive for sustainable growth
and clean industry.*


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overlook the heart of the home – the living and dining area with panoramic views of the ocean from the second-floor perch. The kind of house which absolutely invites a party and a crowd of friends or family, the main residence has a large, unfinished kitchen with pantry which opens onto the great room. A wraparound deck offers spectacular views of the ocean, but the home is set back a fair distance from the ocean with a buffer of native vegetation to provide some shelter for the wood-frame building.

Near the guest house is a pool with separate spa and a small fish pond. Adjacent the pool is a covered, screened cabana perfect for daytime

or nighttime entertaining.

The guest house has a full open kitchen and two bedrooms. The main house could be configured as two bedrooms with the loft as an entertainment room or as a three-bedroom setup. The master suite has a his and hers bathroom and two walk-in closets. The guest bedroom downstairs also has its own full bath and there is a third full bathroom awaiting a tub.

The home is built above a two-car garage, covered patio with brick barbecue nook and generous covered parking area, with additional parking space for a recreational vehicle, boat or other watercraft.

Calendar

JULY

Through July 31

The Artists Guild Gallery presents
Southern Exposure, works by Dawn
Mill. Opening Reception Friday, July 9
from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. 299-1234

July 23

In partnership with the Symphony of the Americas' Summerfest program, the Cultural Council of Indian River County will host the Mont Blanc Chamber Orchestra in a free concert at Heritage Park at Pointe West. Wine and food pairings representing France,

**Solutions from Games Pages in
July 8th/2010 Edition, Issue 24**

2	8	3	5	7	4	6	9	1
6	9	5	1	8	2	4	7	3
4	7	1	6	3	9	8	2	5
9	2	6	3	5	8	7	1	4
3	5	7	4	9	1	2	6	8
8	1	4	2	6	7	3	5	9
5	3	9	7	4	6	1	8	2
7	4	2	8	1	5	9	3	6
1	6	8	9	2	3	5	4	7

Sudoku Page 42

1	8	4	5	7	2	9	6	3
7	6	2	8	3	9	5	4	1
5	9	3	6	4	1	2	8	7
2	5	9	7	1	8	6	3	4
4	1	7	3	6	5	8	2	9
8	3	6	2	9	4	7	1	5
6	2	1	9	5	3	4	7	8
3	7	5	4	8	6	1	9	2
9	4	8	1	2	7	3	5	6

Sudoku Page 43

[illegible]

Crossword Page 42 (July 4th)

Crossword Page 43 (Stop That!)



The Majestic Theatre hosts a nearly full house for it's HD broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera's performance of Puccini's "La Boheme." The Majestic will broadcast the last show of the Met's summer schedule, Bizet's "Carmen," on July 28th. Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

Switzerland and Italy begin at 6:30 (\$12 per person) and concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets for a concert under the stars. 770-4857

July 23 & 24

The Comedy Zone at Riverside Theatre will feature Cee Jay and Jerry Costello performing on the Waxlax Stage at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Tickets \$15. 231-5860

July 23 - 31

Riverside Children's Theatre presents Jesus Christ Superstar, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's rock opera of the last seven days in the life of Jesus Christ. Performances at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Anne Morton Theatre at Riverside Children's Theatre. Tickets: \$8 (students), \$16 (adults). 231-5860

AUGUST

August 18

Behind-the-scenes tour of the Smithsonian Marine Station at 9:30, boat cruise with Capt. Chop Lege, lunch at the Tiki Bar and a tour of the St. Lucie County Marine Center, hosted by the Friends Program at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at FAU. \$55 members/\$65 nonmembers. (772) 242-2559.

August 28

The Education Foundation of Indian River County, partnered with the School District of Indian River County, the Indian River Mall, and 93.7 The Breeze will present a Wisdom Walk and Back to School Expo at the Indian River Mall beginning at 9:00 a.m.



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32963 Passages

NAME	AGE	SUBDIVISION	DATE
Webb, Helen	85	The Moorings	7/11/2010
May, Catherine	77	Marbrisa	7/8/2010
Maxwell, Donna	78	Park Shores	7/6/2010
McKay, Genevieve	93	Summerplace	7/2/2010
Ogram, Michael	71	Island Club	6/28/2010
Barber, Cynthia	90	The Pointes	6/26/2010
Hellman, Margaret Ann	89	Racquet Club of Vero Beach	6/25/2010
Labore, Walter T.	94	Sabal Reef	6/23/2010

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.

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 <p>Valvoline Expresscare of Vero Beach Quick Lube Owned and Operated by Superior Auto Service 1212 23rd Street - Vero Beach, FL (Corner of U.S. 1 and 23rd St) 772-778-6645 UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>The Dock ReBuilders A TrendBuild Company Even if you are down to your last piling... we can ReBuild your dock! Call 772.234.6445 today for a free estimate! Decking - Structure - Piling - Repairs - Accessories - Lifts - ReBuilds - Maintenance Licensed & Insured CGC1505897 Vero Beach www.thedockrebuilders.com</p>	<p>MANICURES, PEDICURES & SHOES  WALK IN WELCOME! Phone 772.234.6783 Store Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5 3001 OCEAN DRIVE #106 - VERO BEACH, FL 32963</p>
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<p> Indian River Private Duty Nursing ...the care you deserve Homemakers • HHAS • Complimentary Supervisory Visits 24 Hour On-Call Nurses • Licensed, Bonded & Insured 3201 Cardinal Drive 231-4442 Lic#NR30211405</p>	<p> Surfaces & Stone & Concrete Specializing in the Design, Installation & Restoration of stone, tile and wood floors. 3954 US Highway One, Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 778-2622 * (772) 778-2644 fax</p>	<p> Summer Special May thru October \$299 Pool/Gym/Tennis 14 day courts, lessons, leagues, camp 772-569-7700 702 Timber Ridge Trail, Vero Beach • www.verobeachtennis.com</p>
<p> The Center for Art and Healing, Inc. Murals Paintings Art Workshops Private and Group Yoga www.ReginaStark.com info@reginastark.com 772-978-1697</p>	<p>Palm Springs Rental Timeshare September 24-October 1, 2010 Marriott's Shadow Ridge Palm Springs, CA 2 bedroom, 2 bath, kitchen villa. Surrounded by golf fairways, lakes & mountains. \$1300.00 Contact: (772) 770-0925</p>	<p>TALK 1370 AM Mornings 6-10 Afternoons 3-5 Rhett Palmer TUNE IN</p>

Vero Beach 32963 / July 22, 2010

Featured Real Estate Sales on Barrier Island

Real Estate

Here are some of the top recent barrier island sales

<p>Subdivision: Floraton Beach, Address: 715 Reef Road</p>  <p>Listing Date: February 1, 2010 Original Price: \$1,890,000 Recent Price: \$1,890,000 Sold: July 2, 2010 Selling Price: \$1,300,000 Listing Agent: Beverlee Pulling Treasure Coast Sotheby's Seller's Agent: Kim Harden Treasure Coast Sotheby's</p>	<p>Subdivision: Riomar, Address: 705 Painted Bunting Lane</p>  <p>Listing Date: January 6, 2010 Original Price: \$799,000 Recent Price: \$799,000 Sold: July 6, 2010 Selling Price: \$700,000 Listing Agent: Matilde Sorensen Dale Sorensen Real Estate Seller's Agent: Sue Yahraes Norris & Company</p>
<p>Subdivision: Sea Oaks, Address: 8824 Sea Oaks Way S, #105</p>  <p>Listing Date: January 22, 2009 Original Price: \$775,000 Recent Price: \$629,000 Sold: July 1, 2010 Selling Price: \$585,000 Listing Agent: Fran Smyrk Treasure Coast Sotheby's Seller's Agent: Fran Smyrk Treasure Coast Sotheby's</p>	<p>Subdiv.: Palms at Silver Palm, Address: 4118 Silver Palm Drive</p>  <p>Listing Date: March 3, 2009 Original Price: \$1,079,000 Recent Price: \$550,000 Sold: July 7, 2010 Selling Price: \$530,000 Listing Agent: David Strupp Alex MacWilliam, Inc. Seller's Agent: Jim Knapp Alex MacWilliam, Inc.</p>

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Real Estate

Real Estate Sales on the Barrier Island: July 1 to July 14



The first half of July saw real estate activity on the barrier island slow a bit, with 13 sales of homes and condos recorded, including three that closed for over \$1 million.

The leading sale of the period was of a gorgeous, 5,000-square-foot oceanfront home in Castaway Cove which in what now seems like a different era, had been listed for \$5.5 million.

The home at 1000 Olde Doubloon Drive had been most recently listed for \$2.995 million, and the sale closed on July 1st for \$2.5 million.

The seller in the transaction was represented by Cindy O'Dare and Clark French of Premier Estate Properties. The buyer was represented by Patty Valdes of the Charlotte Terry Real Estate Group of Alex MacWilliam Inc.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES AND LOTS

SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	MOST RECENT ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
ISLAND CLUB OF VERO	825 ISLAND CLUB SQUARE	2/1/2010	\$ 349,900	\$ 339,900	7/14/2010	\$ 310,000
CASTAWAY COVE	1112 SEA HUNT DR	7/12/2010	\$ 380,000	\$ 380,000	7/12/2010	\$ 380,000
GRACEWOOD LANE	1541 GRACEWOOD LANE	4/1/2010	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,150,000	7/8/2010	\$ 1,150,000
PALMS AT SILVER PALM	4118 SILVER PALM DR	3/3/2009	\$ 1,079,000	\$ 550,000	7/7/2010	\$ 530,000
CASTAWAY COVE	1012 MANGROVE LANE	1/18/2010	\$ 489,000	\$ 410,000	7/6/2010	\$ 350,000
RIOMAR	705 PAINTED BUNTING LANE	1/6/2010	\$ 799,000	\$ 799,000	7/6/2010	\$ 700,000
FLORALTON BEACH	715 REEF RD	2/1/2010	\$ 1,890,000	\$ 1,890,000	7/2/2010	\$ 1,300,000

TOWNHOMES, VILLAS AND CONDOS

SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	MOST RECENT ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
COLONY TOWNHOUSES	4901 BETHEL CREEK DR. #H	1/12/2010	\$ 299,000	\$ 299,000	7/12/2010	\$ 250,000
VERO TOWERS	275 DATE PALM RD, #707	4/9/2010	\$ 179,000	\$ 179,000	7/2/2010	\$ 166,000
CYPRESS TERRACE COND	3555 OCEAN DR, #203	7/2/2010	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000	7/2/2010	\$ 165,000
SEA OAKS	8824 SEA OAKS WY S #105	1/22/2009	\$ 775,000	\$ 629,000	7/1/2010	\$ 585,000
SEAHORSE BEACH	917 COQUINA LANE, #A-4	110/23/2009	\$ 138,500	\$ 125,000	7/1/2010	\$ 125,050

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825 PEMBROKE CT—COURTYARD LIVING
3BR/Study/4.5BA courtyard residence includes a separate 1BR/1BA guest cabana. Picturesque lake and golf views! **\$998,000 Estate Sale**



553 WHITE PELICAN CIR—PRESERVE ESTATE
4BR/4BA residence includes 1BR/1BA guest cabana on sprawling estate homesite with sunset and preserve views. **\$1,499,000 New Listing**



90 BEACHSIDE DR, #202—3,309 A/C SQ. FT.
Recently updated 3BR/Study/3.5BA oceanfront residence. Saturnia floors, wraparound stone terrace. **\$1,975,000 (Furn. Avail.)**



909 ORCHID PT WAY—COURTYARD ESTATE
4BR/Study/3.5BA residence with separate 2-story guest cabana, courtyard. Intracoastal access via kayak/canoe. **\$1,395,000**



420 INDIES DRIVE—GOLF ESTATE
3BR/2 Study/3BA+2 1/2BA exquisite estate with verandahs overlooking golf vistas and sparkling lake on 18th hole. **\$2,350,000**



906 ORCHID POINT WAY—GOLF ESTATE
3BR/Library/3.5BA estate with golf & lake views, exquisite architectural details, lush landscaping. **\$1,950,000 (Furnished)**



547 WHITE PELICAN CIR—PRESERVE ESTATE
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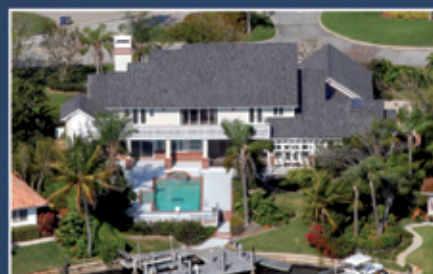
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The Pointes
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\$595,000



Harbor Inn
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\$265,000

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