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Elegant dinner kicks off Vero Beach Art Museum's season. P 11

Wound Center brings gold standard of care to Vero. P 22

Chimp sanctuary seeks to grow in spirit of founder. P 10

**32963 Insider**  
**Office politics**

When outgoing Vero Beach Mayor Sabe Abell last week showed no signs of moving from his City Hall digs to the much smaller office of the Vice Mayor, the new mayor, Kevin Sawnick, decided to simply move into the vice mayoral office.

"It's fine. I have the Vice Mayor's office. I told Sabe he could stay in it," said Sawnick.

With its own reception area, the Mayor's office sports a private entrance with a large picture window; a mammoth oak desk; a stately high-back leather-covered chair; and two winged-back chairs for visitors with the requisite flag and flagpole. In contrast, the Vice-Mayor's office is about half the size, and is located inside the City Clerk's noisy filing and copy room.

Since the City Council each year selects two of its number to serve as Mayor and Vice Mayor, an unspoken protocol exists where the outgoing duo move their belongings out of these offices prior to Election Day.

This time, staff packed up previous Vice Mayor Tom White's belongings and moved them to the other side of the building, where he now shares three cubicles with City Council newcomers Charlie Wilson and Brian Heady. But no one quite wanted to be the one to move Abell's things.

Sawnick subsequently told City Clerk Tammy Vock he was a bit surprised at the disparity in size between the two offices. As a result, she said, she may give Sawnick the larger Deputy City Clerk's office.

# Chinese drywall found on island

BY LISA ZAHNER  
STAFF WRITER

An ultra-luxury riverfront residence built in a 32963 gated community by one of the island's leading builders

of high-end custom homes has been found to contain a large amount of Chinese drywall, according to the home's owner.

The news, which has been

spreading among Realtors since the discovery killed a multi-million-dollar sale, seems certain to trigger a wave of concern among Vero beachside homeowners who

until now viewed the Chinese drywall crisis as a "can't happen here" problem primarily affecting tract homes built on the cheap.

The good news appears to be that what was found in this island home was a species of Chinese drywall which, while clearly stamped "Made in China," was determined by an independent laboratory to not contain high levels of the substance that damages wiring, fixtures, and appliances as well as causing health problems.

Nevertheless, the mere discovery of any drywall from China – even if virtually indistinguishable from American drywall -- in a high-end island home seems likely to heighten awareness of the potential problem among beachside residents.

Compounding concerns are the increasingly widely told experiences of two people well known on the island – Re-



Sabe Abell and Kevin Sawnick

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

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## Kevin Sawnick: 'It'll definitely be interesting'

MICHELLE GENZ  
STAFF WRITER

The morning after 28-year-old Kevin Sawnick was elected Vero Beach mayor by his fellow city council members, he stopped in at a downtown cafe. Leaving his bike parked outside, he settled into a cor-

ner table.

Bypassing breakfast – he absolutely hates eggs, he says – he ordered himself a chicken salad sandwich on a croissant.

When it came, he paused and stared. He lifted a corner of croissant. "I'm wondering

if this is tuna," he said. "I hate tuna."

He poked the filling with his fork and finally took a bite. Nothing registered on his youthful face. Not disgust, not acceptance. Unconvinced, he walked to the back of the restaurant where his server was

standing behind the counter. "Is this chicken salad or tuna?" he asked matter-of-factly.

The server looked startled. "It's chicken," she said. "Wait, I'll check."

She disappeared into the

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Texting while driving.  
The new drunk driving?  
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## Sawnick

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kitchen. A moment later, she smiled reassuringly. "It's definitely chicken," she said.

"Ok, thanks," said Sawnick, who came back to his table, and contentedly tucked into his sandwich.

Some might say Kevin Sawnick is the perfect swing vote on what promises to be a contentious council: deliberative, open-minded, keeping his own opinions in check until hearing out the voices of authority.

"I'm not going to align myself with any person," he says. "I'm just not going to really care how anyone else votes."

Right away, his first action as mayor

drew ire: two hours after the council voted him in as mayor, he authorized a workshop requested by newly elected council member Charlie Wilson, a powerful challenge to the council's status quo. The subject of the hearing: utilities, a topic as distasteful to many as tuna is to Sawnick.

"A lot of people are unhappy that I called this workshop," he says quietly. "There are a lot of issues that a lot of people haven't talked about. That's why we'll have the meeting and go from there."

Then Sawnick pulls back from his official role, stepping out of *in-camera* mode in an almost impish way.

"It'll definitely be interesting," he adds with a knowing smile.

"Kevin's doing a good job, he's young,

he's got a good education," said Sabin Abell last spring, before the utilities issue exploded.

Sawnick just replaced Abell as mayor, who received only one vote for a second term in the post, from another former mayor, Tom White. "He's brand new to the process. He's done his work, what he had to do to get elected. I suggested a couple of things like going to a couple of classes through the League of Cities, and he took them right away, that was good," said the 77-year-old Abell.

This week Abell added this: "He's got some catching up to do, and so do the others who are new. There's a lot that transpired in the last five years that they need to be aware of, so they understand things."

"I don't view Kevin Sawnick as an entry-level mayor," says Wilson, 58, obviously pleased with Sawnick's first executive decision to grant him his requested workshop. "If others view him as a kid, I really do not. He's been a council member for a year."

"I think the way he thinks, in that you don't want to form alliances because sometimes forming alliances doesn't make for the best policy," Wilson says. "He takes things issue by issue. He treats people with respect. He has made a point of making new people feel welcome."

The city's involvement in the business of utilities is a subject that has provoked such powerful emotions that every option seems suspect; like the questionable sandwich, everything seems fishy, from contracts to co-ops to even what past council members said they saw or didn't see, read or didn't read, in particular, the contract they signed that committed the city to a massive \$2 billion deal to buy power from the Orlando Utilities Authority.

Now everyone wants someone else to step up and certify that what they're getting from the city's utilities dealings isn't something they already know they don't like.

There are those who say the council desperately needs a someone tough enough to stand up to City Manager Jim Gabbard. Traditionally, Gabbard, a former police chief, is the council members' first line of information.

Because of Sunshine laws, they cannot talk privately to one another about city business, so Gabbard has met with them one by one on the council's agenda prior to each meeting, which is not required under law. Some say Gabbard's persuasion, informed though it may be as administrator of the city government, prevents other views from being heard.

Whether newcomers Wilson and Brian Heady, a radically independent firebrand of a truth-seeker – to put it mildly – continue the tradition of pre-meeting consults with Gabbard is anyone's guess.

But Sawnick, starting his second year with the council, has relied on him with regularity and trust.

He believes Gabbard when he said that that indeed the former council members were shown the new contract for buying electricity from the OUA – and that it was just so long ago, they don't remember. He shrugs at a mention that key portions were blacked out, including a \$50 million fine should the city break the contract. Getting out of the contract is precisely what Wilson is suggesting in demanding that the city sell off its power plant and get out of the power business all together.

"From what I've been told by the city manager, they all read it," Sawnick says.

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No one can dispute that Sawnick comes to the issue untainted: before this month's election, he alone was not on council when the agreement was signed.

That so measured a man would hold the gavel amidst what is certain to be a tornadic term on the council comes as reassurance to those whose jaws dropped at the election of two new council members known for their sometimes contumacious ways.

"I'm a pretty laid-back person," Sawnick says. "I'm not rude to people. I treat everybody with respect. It may be difficult to get the council to work together – some people are very outspoken, and they want the microphone all the time."

And here he catches a reporter's raised eyebrow: he is referring to the 62-year-old Heady, who won on his 13<sup>th</sup> try at office, essentially without spending a dime, apart from some poster paper for a few handmade signs.

As the youngest mayor in Vero Beach history, Sawnick is also the lone Democrat on the city council. He owns his youthfulness and carries it with confidence, speaking up for young people and progressives wanting to be part of the process but who feel the town is dominated by wealthy, conservative retirees, most of them living beachside.

Sawnick rents a place downtown. On his Facebook page – yes, he has a Facebook page -- he is a fan of the bands The White Stripes and Phish, and his list of favorite movies includes Quentin Tarentino's *Pulp Fiction* and The Cohn Brothers' *The Big Lebowski*.

If Sawnick had his way, he would skateboard to city council meetings. He's always seen it as a cheap, clean and sociable form of transportation, and laments that the means of getting around that served him so well in college is no longer an option in the town he helps to govern.

The man whose former honorific was president of the Young Democrats, Sawnick has endeared himself to his council cohorts as eager to study hard, think hard and then make hard decisions.

"I do a lot of homework reading articles online, talking to people, trying to get as much information as possible."

Five days a week, Sawnick, who has a master's degree in criminal justice, drives to the southwest part of the county to teach math and social studies to inmates at the Indian River County Correctional Institute, a state facility housing convicted felons age 14 to 20. Some are in for two years, he says; others are in for life.

"It's crazy sometimes," he says. "About 99 percent of them are wanting to learn. So most of the time it's pretty good. But it's pretty stressful.

"What's more stressful? City council,

or being around prisoners eight hours or day? I'm not for sure," he says, shaking his head.

"I enjoy the heat. That's the job. That's why we paid the big bucks to listen to the citizens."

He is kidding again, at least about the big bucks. With the long hours prepping for the council, and added ceremonial duties as mayor, Sawnick knows he can't live on just the city's salary, a mere \$10,000 a year. But he's seriously considering quitting his job or at least reducing his schedule.

"It's challenging for me just to bal-

ance everything," he says. "Imagine if I had kids. I couldn't possibly do this. I know there's no chance of raising city council pay. There'd be such a backlash. But I want to prove you don't have to be retired to be on city council, and I'd like to represent the people who work full-time."

Asked if his prison experience will help him control flare-ups on the council — a fair question given that newly-elected Brian Heady has actually served jail time after speaking at a public meeting, Sawnick says, "I work in a prison with teenagers who

are felons. If I can handle that, I can handle someone who wants to speak more than three minutes about something."

Here, he steps out of character again, smiles, and adds: "It's going to be fun."

Younger by half than the next youngest member, Sawnick chats up a very different constituency on street corners and downtown.

He is very protective of the downtown area, and longs to see it thrive. Sawnick supports a ballot initiative

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## 221 Clarkson Lane : John's Island



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## Chinese Drywall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

altor Tripp Hernandez and accountant Keith Morgan – whose lives have been turned upside down by discovery of the more dangerous Chinese drywall in their homes across the Indian River Lagoon in Antilles (page 6).

A group of county, state and federal officials were scheduled to tour four homes in the Antilles today (Thursday) and meet the homeowners to discuss the problem.

While we agreed not to publish the exact location of the island residence found to have Chinese drywall in 32963, the home was built by RCL Development, a highly regarded developer of homes in many of the most prestigious barrier island communities.

Based on the RCL's reputation for building some of the best homes in Vero Beach, the owner – who lives in Orchid -- had hired Bob Lyles, Charles Garrett and their team at RCL Development to construct his dream project.

RCL's website boasts more than a decade of providing "unparalleled craftsmanship and quality," and building some of the area's finest homes in the communities of Windsor, John's Island, the Moorings, Marsh Island and Orchid Island.

Until an inspector who tested each of the 360 plus sheets of drywall in the home RCL had built reported that 30 had come from China, the possibility appears to have never entered Lyles' mind.

"I was shocked to find out that we had drywall in the home that was made in China," Lyles said. "I immediately called our drywall subcontractor and he was shocked. I would never have dreamt something like this would have happened."

"He contacted the supplier and the supplier confirmed that the drywall was not manufactured by Knauf, the (Chinese) company that was producing the toxic drywall."

Lyles said the drywall contractor subsequently "stepped up to the plate at his own expense" and replaced the drywall at no charge to RCL or the homeowner. "He was as embarrassed as I was," Lyles said of the drywall contractor.

RCL spent about \$30,000 getting the house back together, re-tooling all the custom moldings, repainting, refinishing and re-installing the light fixtures after the new domestic drywall was installed. Repairing the damage was not covered by RCL's insurance company.

Lyles said he feels not only RCL, but other top beachside builders, have been exposed to potentially having Chinese drywall since RCL's drywall

supplier "supplies 98 to 99 percent of the builders who work over here on the beach."

The barrier island resident we spoke to is one of the few lucky ones for two reasons: first, he apparently had a harmless kind of Chinese drywall; and second, his builder came forward to make the house right after the owner learned of the presence of the drywall when he tried to sell the home.

The home inspector for the buyer raised the question of Chinese drywall during the due diligence period of the contract for sale.

"The evidence that he saw was that the coils on the air-conditioner handler had turned black, and when we brought in an A/C guy, he said that was normal, he said that by us being on the water, the coils outside were blacker than the ones on the handler," the home owner said.

It never entered his mind that Chinese drywall could have been installed in the home, which was started in 2005 and completed two years later.

"I didn't even know what Chinese drywall was until I had to sign a Chinese drywall rider on the sales contract," he said. "I got on the internet and read everything I could find out about it and found out that it really attacks metal, especially the A/C and copper wiring and the bathroom fixtures -- that it eats through the finish.

His buyer wanted out of the contract to take advantage of the opportunity to buy another barrier island home, so another inspector was brought in who said it wasn't Chinese drywall. Eventually, the seller's insurer brought in an expert, who used a Strontium meter to test every piece of drywall in the house by identifying a trace-element marker which is generally present in higher levels in Chinese drywall.

The Strontium itself does not cause the corrosion, but it helps identify the materials made in China.

"He found Chinese drywall in 12 to 15 percent of the sheetrock walls," the owner said. "So the buyer got out of the contract and I lost the deal because of it."

Still, there was some good news. The type of drywall in his house was not made by any of the several manufacturers that are considered worst offenders. His sheetrock didn't emit as much of the sulfur dioxide and therefore, had not damaged the wiring, fixtures, appliances or other areas of the house. Regardless, the homeowner had the distressing task of gutting a couple of rooms in his brand-new spec house.

"I've had all the legal expenses, plus the loss of value in the house and I'm still trying to sell it," he said. "Now I have to disclose to any potential buyer that the house had Chinese drywall."

It is not clear whether any other RCL homes built during the time period that the house in question was under construction -- 2004 to 2007 -- contain the benign Chinese drywall.

Upon finding and repairing the case of our anonymous homeowner, RCL decided not to inform the other clients who had drywall hung at about the same time.

"It would be one thing if it was the toxic drywall, but it was not," Lyles said. "And we had letters from the supplier saying that they did not buy from the manufacturer who produced that drywall."

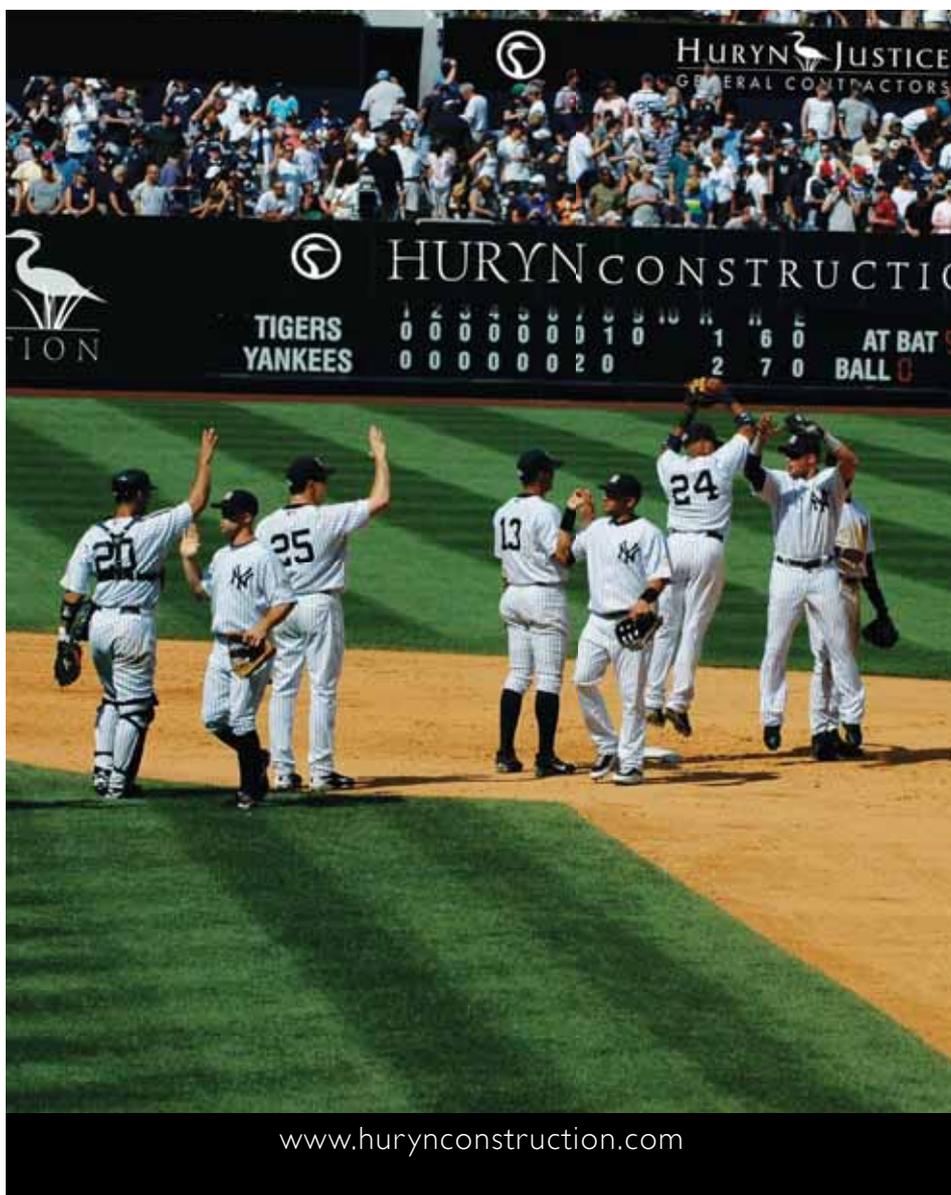
Lyles said a laboratory in Atlanta verified that the drywall in the home was not the type with the dangerous, high-sulfur content.

Relying on those laboratory results, the company did not even test one of its own spec houses that is currently for sale and was built during the same time period.

Lyles said he is currently living in an RCL spec home and that he's seen no signs of Chinese drywall in the house. Garrett said they had no reason to fear that the type of Chinese drywall, even if it had been installed in other homes, was a danger to the health or to property of their clients.

"There was no corrosion or reaction to it," Garrett said. "It was not the gas-emitting kind."

When asked if there was a thought process about giving or not giving RCL



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clients with homes built during the same time period a “heads up,” and giving them access to the lab results so they could choose whether or not to have the home inspected or tested for Chinese drywall, Lyles responded, “I think any potential buyer needs

to be afforded as much information as possible in respect to the home they’re buying. I would never try to obscure the facts or to hide anything for them.”

The owner of the home in question was fortunate to have chosen a builder

which would stand by its work once the imported drywall was found. There is no recourse out there for most homeowners, as only a handful of builders have paid for remediation.

Most of the time, the typical one-year new home warranties had expired

by the time residents pinpoint the odd things they’re seeing and experiencing to Chinese drywall. And even when homes are under warranty, builders are blaming subcontractors.

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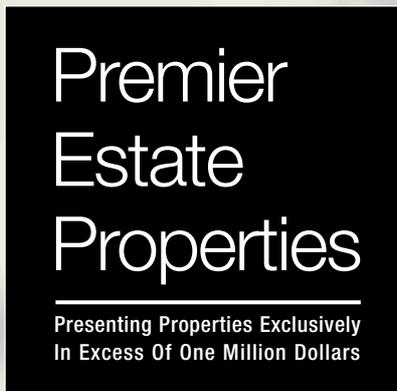
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SOLD	9/15/08	2375 Highway A1A South	\$ 9,012,500
SOLD	11/6/09	2206 East Ocean Oaks	\$ 6,950,000
SOLD	11/3/08	1965 Mooringline Drive	\$ 5,900,000
SOLD	9/11/09	2080 Highway A1A South	\$ 5,495,000
SOLD	9/11/09	2070 Highway A1A South	\$ 5,495,000
SOLD	9/11/09	2120 Highway A1A South	\$ 5,495,000
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SOLD	5/29/09	13040 Highway A1A	\$ 1,595,000
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SOLD	7/31/09	851 River Trail Drive	\$ 1,375,000
SOLD	4/15/09	108 Hidden Oak Trail	\$ 1,350,000
SOLD	2/5/09	1801 Ocean Drive	\$ 1,295,000
SOLD	3/18/09	2925 Marsh Island Lane	\$ 1,195,000
SOLD	9/30/09	180 Lakeview Way	\$ 1,025,000
SOLD	5/8/09	8343 Seg0 Court	\$ 1,000,000

Source: Multiple Listing Service (MLS), The Real Estate Industry Standard For Unbiased, Credible And Factual Information.

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## Chinese Drywall

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Subcontractors are claiming it was a product issue, but how can an individual American family figure out how to file a claim with a German company making products in China? Homeowners' insurance doesn't cover Chinese drywall as they call it a pollutant and deny the claims.

Home builders, hit hard by the recent recession, have sometimes disappeared or don't have the funds to tackle the problem, even if they wanted to.

Brian Connelly, a partner with beachside law firm Gould Cooksey Fennell and native of Vero Beach, has been hearing variations of this sad story since he launched a crusade against Chinese drywall in May.

He is using his experience in personal injury and product liability law to devise a strategy to help homeowners get some relief.

He represents clients who live in at least four different communities. The thing they all have in common is the brick wall they're running into when they try to get someone to pay for the damages.

"It has been frustrating for everyone involved because there is no remedy and it's a cascade of problems because it's not only the financial issues but also the health issues," Connelly said.

The vast majority of Connelly's clients are owners of brand-new homes.

So far, Connelly said he has not been able to get builders to make any of the homes right, but he's not giving up on holding accountable any of the folks who derived financial gain from selling or installing Chinese drywall in his clients' homes.

"We're exploring all the avenues for our clients," Connelly said, referring to options of filing in state court, mediating with suppliers and contractors or potentially joining the federal effort to bring the German manufacturer to the United States to face the damaged parties.

Connelly said he thinks there is a lot more Chinese drywall in our community than has been uncovered at this point, and that there is a certain amount of denial, especially among people who have sunk small fortunes into their homes. The fact that he's taking these cases on contingency makes Connelly even more determined to find a way to help put his clients' lives and houses back together.

Our homeowner said he's done with the spec home business, that he'll find another hobby to fill his spare time. But until there is some resolution for homeowners, the anonymous barrier island homeowner is trying to look on the bright side.

"If I was a buyer today, I think the first thing I would do is to eliminate homes built during that time period," he said. "But I feel like I'm a step ahead and have a leg up with my house because I've already gotten rid of the Chinese drywall and can show buyers that it's not there anymore."

## Chinese drywall takes a toll

BY LISA ZAHNER  
STAFF WRITER

While some Chinese drywall does not emit enough sulfur dioxide to cause health problems, a lot of it was imported that does.

The Hernandez and Morgan families, who bought homes at The Antilles off US1 just across the Indian River Lagoon, are examples of those whose health was impacted by the drywall.

Tripp Hernandez, a Realtor for Dale Sorensen Real Estate who has dealt in the beachside home market since 2006, today is in the process of buying a home on the barrier island. The Hernandez family has been living in a rental home for five months.

Keith Morgan, a 40-year Vero Beach resident and partner in the accounting firm Morgan, Jacoby, Thurn, Boyle & Associates, also is living with his family in a furnished rental.

Both families evacuated their homes in The Antilles after confirming the presence of Chinese drywall.

"Right after we moved in, we could see something happening with the bathroom fixtures, they were pitting and the coils on the air conditioner looked like someone had painted them with flat black spray paint," Hernandez said. "And there was a smell, it wasn't like rotten eggs, it was more like the smell of fresh paint and we just thought it was the smell of a new house."

Or possibly the smell of the \$50,000 in new furniture the couple moved into the home — a home they were making for their new baby son, Noah.

"Noah was 4 months old when we moved in and he's been really sick," Hernandez said. "He's had pneumonia twice in a six-month period and his immune system is just about non-existent."

Hernandez and his wife, Sherri, took Noah to specialist after specialist trying to figure out what was wrong and no one could explain what was happening - how a healthy baby

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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## Drywall takes a toll

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

could deteriorate like that for no apparent reason.

Sherri Hernandez was suffering from terrible headaches and Tripp Hernandez said his blood chemistry was very abnormal while living in the house. Fortunately the family's health has bounced back. Their finances, however, are permanently damaged.

"All of our stuff is in the garage and we'll probably have to get rid of all of it because it all stinks," he said. "We had to dry clean our clothes and then wash them and hang them outside for



a week. There's just nothing to do with all the fabric furniture and they're not sure if the hardwood furniture is safe or not, nobody knows.

"You can bring somebody in to gas the whole house and the furniture,



but we're not going to do that because we're not staying in the house," he said. "Why would you pay \$60,000 to gas the furniture when you can just go buy new furniture that you know is not contaminated?"

Hernandez said many of the affected homes in The Antilles have been selling for about one-third the value and that buyers are gutting them down to the studs and starting from scratch.

He said Ironwood Properties, the builder of the Antilles, is a quality builder and he bought his home on developer Cary Glickstein's reputation for building great communities in Palm Beach County. However, he said the builder has been unresponsive to complaints from Antilles residents. Ironwood did not return a phone call to Vero Beach 32963.

"I don't think anybody purposely put Chinese drywall into homes," Hernandez said. "They just needed the materials and that was the product available at the time, so they used it. Nobody knew back then what it was going to do."

The government is also confused about which department is responsible for patrolling for Chinese drywall and hunting down those who sold it and installed it. Is it a public health issue, a building code issue, an economic issue or a consumer issue?

Hernandez said he's seen the most hope and voice on Chinese drywall come out of U.S. Senator Bill Nelson's office. He said Nelson has "beat the drum" on Chinese drywall, since Florida reportedly has more than one third of the estimated 100,000 cases in the nation.

Keith Morgan agreed that Senator Nelson is providing homeowners with some hope that things will get better. The Morgans bought their Antilles home in February 2007 and moved in October 2007.

Morgan said the situation he finds himself in was completely unavoidable.

"We did our due diligence," he said. "I can honestly say that there is nothing I could have done differently or anything else that I could have checked. This is happening at all levels of society, it's happening to everyone."

The health problems both were having were the first clues.

"Shirley started having headaches 24/7 and I was just having various symptoms, my eyes were burning, my skin was burning and I was having respiratory problems at night," Morgan said.

"We noticed that if we went away, even for a long weekend, that the symptoms started to clear up."

In time, the house started to reveal its own symptoms.

"In March, we kind of started to put it all together, the corroded coils, the black jewelry and silverware, even the deterioration of some of the mirrors," he said. "But it was the health issues that finally dictated that we leave the house."

The Morgans are pursuing legal action to try to recoup some of their loss-



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es and come up with a plan to repair their home.

"We eventually want to get back into the house, we had planned to live there until we have to go to a nursing home, which I don't anticipate to be anytime soon," he said. "What we're hoping for is for the government to develop some sort of protocol to follow so that when we do the remediation, we can say we followed the protocol established by the state or federal agency and so we can preserve some of the resale value of our home."

Dr. Harold Weiner of Boca Raton has treated or consulted with about 15 patients who have experienced health problems due to Chinese drywall.

A board-certified internist who also specializes in allergy and immunology, Weiner is considered an expert in occupational and environmental medicine. He holds a master's degree in public health and is certified in forensic medicine, so he's often called on to testify about matters related to irritants such as the ones emitted by Chinese drywall.

Weiner said the most common symptoms caused by the sulfur contamination of the Chinese drywall are burning of the eyes and irritation of the respiratory system, starting with the nose and progressing onto a sore throat, cough, headaches from congestion, etc.

The actual physical symptoms can be exacerbated by the extreme stress that dealing with the emotional and financial aspects of having Chinese drywall.

"This is evolving and we are on the low end of the learning curve," Weiner said. "The good news is that we have every indication that the symptoms clear up very shortly after the patient is removed from exposure to the irritant and that there are no lasting effects."

Attorney Brian Connelly of the beachside firm Gould Cooksey Fennell is representing people who have endured the anguish and financial pain of dealing with toxic Chinese drywall. Connelly said that the only protocol currently established is one for preserving the evidence of Chinese drywall so that homeowners can move forward with fixing their homes but retain the documents, samples and photographs required to carry forth litigation.

Though he's pursuing a way to compensate homeowners for what they've been through, he said it's a tough thing to quantify when you hear stories like the ones from these two families.

"When you look at costs, how do you measure the cost of someone getting sick from living in a house with Chinese drywall and then the illness clearing up after they move out?" he asked rhetorically. "What is the value of that time that they were ill?"

## Sawnick

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

similar to one just passed in Sebastian, offering tax abatement to downtown businesses, including those that renovate or enlarge.

He had moved to Florida from the suburbs of Detroit, where he grew up, and Ferris State University in Michigan, after earning a master's degree in criminal justice. Working in Orlando for a month, he was offered the job at the prison in Vero Beach. That was four years ago.

"It still feels like I'm on vacation," he says. "It's still new to me how nice the

weather is all the time."

His parents, meanwhile, have moved to Sebring, where Sawnick's sister, who works in the medical field, is raising a toddler. His father, circulation manager for the Detroit Free Press, was active in the Teamsters' Union; his mother worked in retailing.

From the time he was little, Kevin Sawnick has been interested in criminal justice. "I've always been intrigued by crime," he says.

With an undergraduate degree in sociology, his interests fell more toward rehabilitation of inmates. "I wanted to do something besides be a cop or a corrections officer. Not that what they do isn't important - it's very impor-

tant, but I wanted to help people more directly," he says.

After a day at the prison, Sawnick comes home and goes online, looking up issues on the internet, from utilities to health care to urban development.

At the other end of the demographic spectrum, Sawnick finds admirers who look at him with pride. "They'll say I'm like their son or grandson, or they'll compare me to their kids, like 'My son's 25 and he's not involved in anything.' It's like a parent-son thing with them."

"I'm just getting into this," he says. "Some people don't get into it until they're 50 or 60. I'm getting a head start on being a productive citizen."



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A chimpanzee strolls across the lush landscape of its island.

Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

# Chimp sanctuary seeks to grow in spirit of founder

BY SANDRA RAWLS  
COLUMNIST

When benefactors join board members of Save the Chimps for a gala next week, they will be assuring the continuation of the mission begun by the sanctuary's founder, the late Carole Noon.

The cocktail reception and auction Thursday at the Vero Beach Hotel and Spa draws on strong Vero Beach support for the sanctuary, located a half-

hour's drive away, west of Fort Pierce.

Meanwhile, the sanctuary, the largest in the world for chimpanzees, is conducting a nationwide search for a new executive director to replace Noon, who died in May after a three-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

In the months since her death, the chimp city created where an old citrus grove once stood has received another group of re-socialized chimps from their New Mexico site.

"We'd like to have someone increase our outreach to the public, to take us

further in areas of education," said Co-chairman of the Board Chip Owen from his office in San Diego last week. "We want to teach more people about the difficulties of having chimpanzees in captivity, and about what we do here to create a satisfying way of life for rescued animals."

But he said a strong leader would help them with the expansion of their facilities and growth as a non-profit.

"Chimpanzees can easily live 40 or 50 years and a few of our chimps are young," he said, reflecting on the more than 300 chimps that will eventually come to live there. He also stressed the need for an expanded maintenance building as well as a new kitchen.

Director of Development Triana Romero is clear on the path set by Carole Noon. "She knew this was a very long term project. She had the understanding to set everything up to run even if she was gone, to foresee what was necessary to continue with our plan to bring all the chimps from New Mexico and provide for their long futures."

The compound runs with regimented precision. There are three feedings a day, with extensive planning of diet and overall health. Daily laundry for the animals, blankets and towels, billow in the breeze outside the care centers attached to each island, and each building is routinely washed down and scrubbed.

The goal is that the rescued chimps, animals closest to us in genetic similarity, live out their long lives in plentiful space and peace.

Romero points out that Sanctuary Director Jen Feuerstein was Noon's protégé, trained by Noon for years to continue the painstaking work of forming new family groups with rescued chimps who have sometimes been in cages for years, often alone.

Carole Noon's spirit still hovers over the site she created. The modest home where she lived and died still sits off to the side of one of the chimp islands

where her ashes are scattered. The air is pierced by the hoots and calls of the animals she did so much for, and they echo across the compound's 150 acres as if in tribute.

Her fierce protectiveness of chimpanzees is legendary. Noon did not take lightly someone dressing up a chimp. Even a baseball cap thrust onto a hairy head would raise her fierce ire.

Noon, originally from Portland, Oregon was inspired by Jane Goodall. She became intrigued by chimpanzees in the 1980s, eventually earning a Ph.D in biological anthropology at the University of Florida.

She made up her mind in 1998 to rescue a group of "chimp-a-nauts": space-bound primates who were listed as "used equipment" by the Air Force. She drew up her plans, sued the government for possession of the original 21 animals, and never looked back, determined to somehow bring all 300 chimps that had been in the space program to Florida.

Goodall once spoke of Noon's grit and determination, calling her a person of "extraordinary perseverance and unbreakable conviction."

"Carole Noon was a person who just wouldn't take no for an answer," says Vero Beach artist Barbara Sharp, who is donating hand-embellished giclee prints to the upcoming event.

Save the Chimps has impressed a growing league of supporters by spending almost all its donations on the needs of the animals.

At the Vero benefit Nov. 19, the locals gathered around the chic hotel pool will be bidding on a sculpture by Robert Johnson, a framed wildlife photograph by Barbara Dupont, original chimpanzee art, and a signed 1961 Life magazine signed by astronaut Robert Crippen, featuring Ham the space chimp.

Goods and services from around Vero Beach will be offered at auction as well and African tapestries collected by Carole Noon herself.

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# Elegant Chairman's Club Dinner kicks off Vero museum's season

BY SAMANTHA BAITA  
COLUMNIST

No word better describes the Chairman's Club Dinner Nov. 6-7 at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, than elegant - from the commanding neoclassical structure to the floor-brushing black tablecloths, crisp white napkins, silver dinnerware and white rose and orchid centerpieces to the artistically presented hors d'oeuvres and guests themselves.

The arriving guests began to ascend the broad entrance stairs, and Gedeon moved to greet them.

As one charming wag put it (he himself a black tie-clad Chairman's Club member and long-time museum supporter): "We're always the same old bunch - it's just a different party."

And so it was - the Chairman's Club Dinner attendees move, for the most part, in the same social circles throughout each season. As the guests

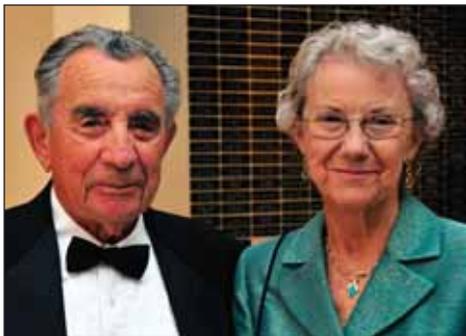
gathered, queuing up for cocktails and reaching for a nibble as the hors d'oeuvres trays passed by, the conversation flowed like drawn butter, snowbirds and year-rounders greeting one another and taking the opportunity to catch up on the summer's activities.

The men, handsome, at ease, wore their black-tie with impeccable non-chalance. Partners reached up now and again to readjust a recalcitrant bow tie back into the perfect jaunty

angle. Like the male dancer in a *pas de deux*, these gentlemen were dressed to show off their partner's gorgeous garb to its best advantage and to never, ever overshadow her.

Among the women, black was the new black and, as if an ensemble memo had made the rounds that afternoon, there were just enough pops of color here and there to pull it all together: Ellie McCabe's vibrant red

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



George and Joan Darooge Photos: Mark Schumann



Kevin and Elizabeth Grady

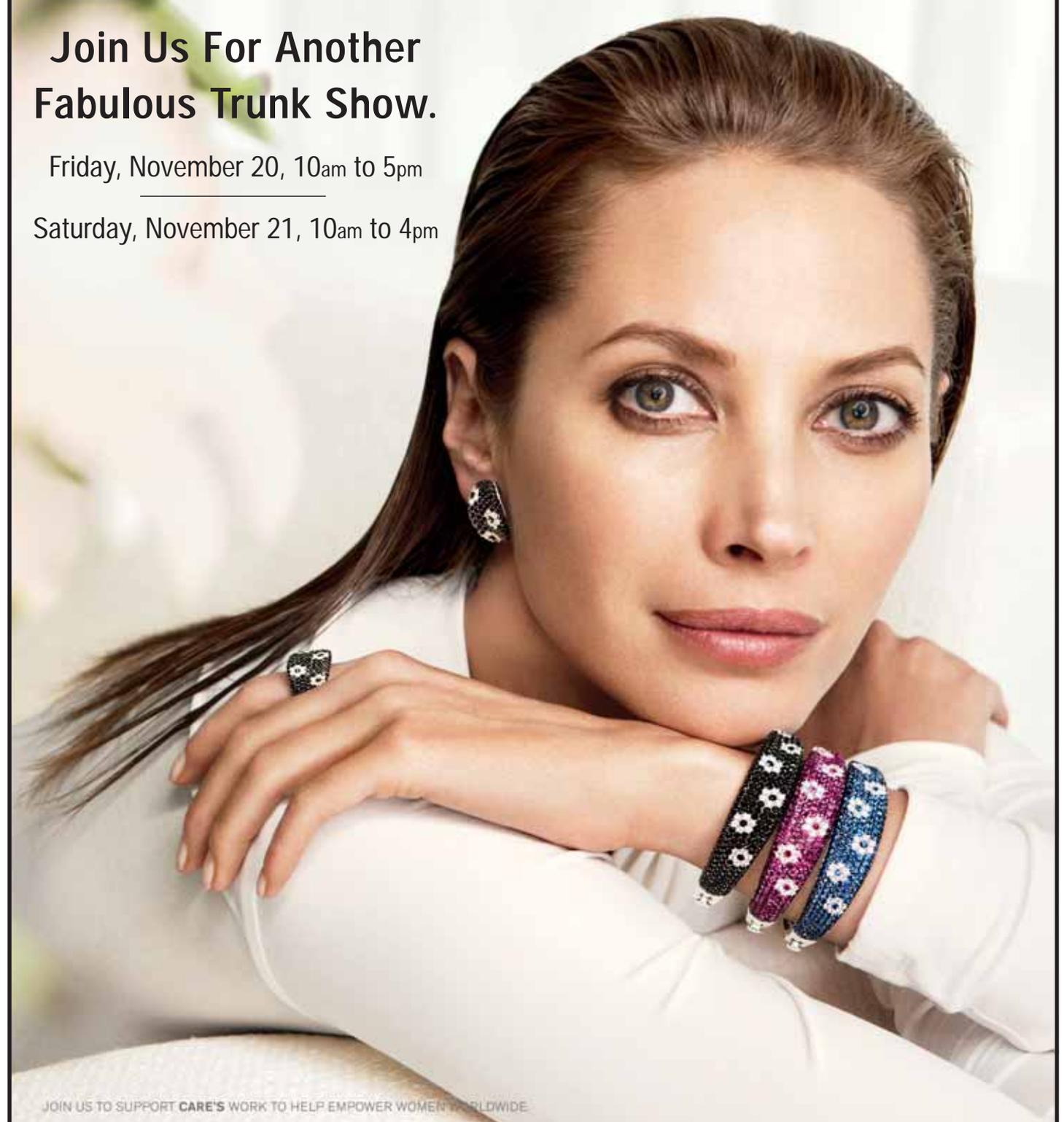
In the dining hall, moments before guests began to arrive, Executive Director Lucinda Gedeon, in flowing black, checked table name cards, and answered staff questions, pausing to talk about this important annual event which served to kick off the Museum's exciting new season. The event has had to be expanded to two nights because the number of Museum supporters at these high levels has increased over the years, and the dining hall cannot accommodate everyone in one seating. A happy challenge.

Gedeon's goal for the museum is simple: "We want the very best - the very best exhibits, the very best classes."

The Chairman's Club Dinner is the annual "thank you" to these high-end donors, through whom the Museum can provide just that - the best - and without whom it could not have risen to the position of prestige it enjoys today.

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# People



Edward Cartnick, Jane Fleming Jennifer Bailey Forbes, Barbara and Dick Stark



Fred Herlitz, Joan Calame, Helen Herlitz, Richard Calame

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

jacket and floor length, bias-cut black skirt; Jean Armstrong's sparkling blue-green touches.

Leonora Gonzales stood out in a creamy ensemble; BeBe Grady chose a vibrant blue; another shimmered all in gold. Oh, and all the gorgeous shoes! Don't get me started!

The gathering in the center of the room soon reached critical mass and you had to move sideways, arms tucked tight against your body, murmuring excuse-me's as you zigged and zagged your way across. Photographers nabbed groupings of guests as cameras clicked and flashed.

Alvina and Jim Balog were preparing to smile for the camera in front of a multicolored painting when Alvina

politely interrupted. She wore a stylish cream jacket with a delicate black design and announced it would be lost in front of so many colors and shapes. The shot was moved to the opposite wall, in front of an abstract with a simpler design. The jacket looked great.

Laughing, Jim noted that Alvina, an artist, has an eye for such details. Dedicated donors, the couple strongly supports the Museum's goal of bringing art to kids who haven't previously been exposed.

"You never know when the smallest thing will have a great impact on the life of a young person and provide a spark that could last the rest of their lives," Alvina said. The museum was a key factor in the couple deciding to move to Vero. "We support several local causes," Jim said, "But this is our

primary thing - our No. 1."

The Museum's Chairman of the Board Edward A. "Ted" Michael was involved with the museum even before the couple made the move from Minnesota about a decade ago. A friend from Minneapolis, who had moved to Vero and become involved with the Museum, had pegged Ted for the Museum's finance committee. Ted was attending his first committee meeting almost before the couple had unpacked, Ted's wife, Dawn, recalled, with a smile. Impressed with the museum, the pair has been involved ever since.

A friendly, upbeat couple, Bill and Jane Thompson, are retired professors from Corning Community College in Corning, N.Y. Bill served on the museum board during the very

busy time of its renovation and they have both been active in many museum programs and projects over the years. Now, however, Bill said with a wide smile, "We are retired. I mean, we retired from retirement. We live in Indian River Estates and don't have to do a thing." He complemented my bangs and then pointed to Jane's coif, which featured - bangs. Grinning, he chided: "You haven't mentioned MY hair." Upon which I felt obligated to remark that the really perfect heads don't need the embellishment of hair. (Two points!)

Kevin Grady, President of PNC Wealth Management, and wife, BeBe, were this year's Chairman's Club Dinner sponsor and have been involved in several such dinners in previous years. Kevin is impressed with the quality of the cultural offerings in a relatively small community such as this. He sees such entities as the Museum of Art, Riverside Theatre and the Atlantic Classical Orchestra to be precious "cultural gems of the Treasure Coast."

"Did you know," he asked, "that this Museum is the largest teaching museum in the entire Southeast?" I do now.

Kevin noted that most people are still not aware of the outreach opportunities the museum offers for the "less privileged residents in our community" - the very people Lucinda Gedeon hopes can become engaged as they discover the many aspects of art that are open to them here.

At the appointed time, the tightly wound swirl of guests made its way into the Great Hall to enjoy a dynamic cabaret performance, "KT Sings KITT," by the incomparable KT McCammond, accompanied on piano by Bob Moreen. In this popular show, KT celebrates the remarkable performances and incredible life of the fabulous Eartha Kitt.

Over the two-night event, the creme de la creme of the Museum's supporters were splendidly thanked with the very best of food, drink and entertainment.

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# Cracker Hoedown benefits Habitat for Humanity

BY MARY SCHENKEL  
COLUMNIST

Wearing western garb and cowboy hats, folks moseyed in to the Fifth Annual Habitat Cracker Hoedown, to benefit Indian River Habitat for Humanity.



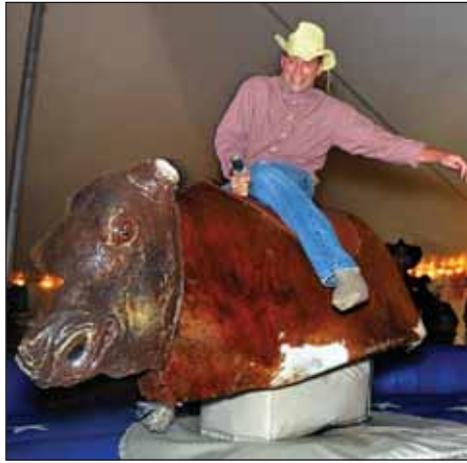
Anne and Peter Wallace

The donated 1957 Thunderbird convertible, set up at the entrance in a place of honor, might not have fit in with the hoedown theme, but it generated lots of excitement and high hopes, with everyone wanting to be the lucky winner. Rene Donars, Habitat Board chairman said that the mint condition beauty had drawn interest from out-of-towners.

Guests entered into the first of two enormous white tents set up on the grounds of Riverside Park for the cocktail hour, where they perused tables filled with silent auction items while listening to the sounds of the Heritage Bluegrass Band.

Sports enthusiasts could choose from golf outings, tennis passes, surfing lessons and fitness memberships. Food lovers had numerous restaurant packages to entice them and collectors were tempted by autographed photos and paintings. A couple of the more high-end items featured an America's Cup-worthy adventure aboard Dennis Conner's famous Stars & Stripes racing yacht, and a behind-the-scenes tour of the U. S. Capitol Building in Washington DC. In short, there was something to appeal to everyone.

Despite all of those temptations, it was the daunting mechanical bull who took center stage, awaiting brave rodeo riders. The hoedown also had some exciting new games this year. George Blythe presided over a High Striker game for the guys to contend



Mike Bradley



John and Tracey Carroll

Photos: Mark Schumann

with, while others opted to sit for the caricature artist or try their hands at the wine toss and "corny" tic-tac-toe games.

The long arm of the law came to town with Sheriff Deryl Loar tossing people into the pokey for a new Hoedown Jail and Bail feature. Andy Bowler, Habitat president/CEO and France Kenyon, advisory chair, were the first two arrested and things definitely got competitive as County Commissioner Wesley Davis whipped up the crowd, soliciting bail money to get them out of jail. Punishment for the loser, in this case Kenyon, was kissing

a squealing little piglet that was none too happy about being awakened from his nap. Later in the evening, Connie Poppell and Sue Croom battled it out. Poppell's punishment as the loser was to ride the mechanical bull, a feat which she accomplished successfully.

The second gigantic tent, attractively decorated in down-home country chic had more than ample room for guests to chow down on a mouth-watering barbeque buffet with all the fixings, catered by Culinary Capers. Guests dined and rounded out the evening by taking to the dance floor for a little Texas two-stepping to the

sounds of Hair Peace on the stage.

David Taylor, who has chaired the event for the last three years, credited the volunteers and committee people for the event's success. "I've learned that the best way to go is to have good people and that's what I have."

The event's major benefactors in-



Jane Howard

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# Incoming Tide

## Vickie Lautenbach: 'Everything revolves around fun here'

BY MICHELLE GENZ  
STAFF WRITER

Vickie Lautenbach has made a career out of changing homes, not only for her clients who hire her for her interior design skills, but for her family. As the wife of an IBM executive, and a one-time employee herself, she has lived out the IBM acronym in what insiders joke means "I've Been Moved" — relocating 17 times in her 33-year marriage.

Each time she was able to quickly pull her home life back together, putting to use an exuberance for throwing parties with new friends, making her house cozy and pretty and helping her children with new schools and neighborhoods. But one event wrenched her family like no other — the sudden death of her young son. For that to heal, she had to turn to a power beyond people and possessions; that experience led her to an avocation of helping others heal from loss.

Last week, the family celebrated her absent son's birthday, eating his favorite foods, telling happy stories, as a way of coping with his loss. The annual ritual took place in a home he never saw — the Lautenbachs' last move — to Vero Beach.

In *Incoming Tides*, we introduce island readers to new neighbors chang-



Vickie Lautenbach, owner of Elegance by the Sea, stands in front of her store's new location in The Village Shops.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

ing the face of our community. In Lautenbach's case, it's one living room — and one life — at a time.

If there has been one constant in the

life of Vickie Lautenbach, it is that any house she lives in becomes a home.

Her urge to soften the edges, drape the windows, color the walls is innate after so many moves in her husband

Dan's career. At one point, they even moved to Paris, where the strongest element in the room was the view of the Eiffel Tower.

From Austin to Atlanta, from Chicago to Connecticut, and many places in between, her love of people and celebratory spirit served her well.

"If people did not come and welcome me to the neighborhood, I used to bake brownies and cookies and take the kids and introduce ourselves.

"It's hospitality," she says. "I welcome people in my house.

Those things are key in my life, and it's been a gift from my very beginnings that I developed through my experiences, when you travel and move and start over again."

Lautenbach's earliest notions of home came from a traditional working-class Polish neighborhood in Baltimore, where her grandparents had come as immigrants. When Vickie was young, her parents moved the family to an early suburb of row houses. There, Vickie could walk to friends' houses and to Catholic school, where her father worked in maintenance, one of several jobs he kept to support the family.

Her mother was an accomplished seamstress; she worked making draperies for a local department store. At home, she made her daughter beautiful outfits from Vogue patterns. "I was

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# Incoming Tide

a silly little clothes horse,” Lautenbach says. “I was very outgoing and I loved clothes. I was always queen of this and that.”

Vickie’s house, growing up, was full of old world merriment, from Friday night canasta to weekend polka picnics – her parents were avid dancers, and had a weekend radio show of Polka music. They even started the Maryland Association of Polka Promoters to further the traditional dance.

“They gave me the principles of family and friends and food and fun,” she says. “I practiced hospitality and became a gourmet cook. I celebrated family and made memories every place we went.”

After a brief stint at college, Lautenbach took a job with IBM in Dallas, then Austin. “I loved Texas,” she says. “It’s the people. They have big hearts. They’re loving, giving, friendly people, no matter where you go.”

She would end up living in Austin at four points in her life.

Dan Lautenbach, meanwhile, had started with the company in Cincinnati. Just back from Vietnam, he worked doing typewriter installations while going to college, eventually joining IBM full time when he graduated. He was transferred first to Los Angeles, and then to Austin, where one St. Patrick’s Day in 1976, the luck of the Irish led him to a bar for a green beer, and Vickie.

“I saw these guys come in with three-piece suits and wingtips and told my friends, ‘Look, they’re IBM!’ ” she recalls. She didn’t have to use her wiles to woo him, she says. “He was in with both feet forward.”

It turned out they couldn’t both be IBM, according to company policy. When they married, eight months later, Vickie quit and started leading the life of a corporate wife, as Dan, in sales administration and marketing, continued to be promoted.

While the couple began their family, the moves continued. Their son, Nick, seemed to adjust less readily than his little sister Emilie, so Lautenbach took extra care to settle him in.

Then one fall day, when he was 12, a friend’s father was giving him a ride, when a teenager ran a red light, crashing into the car.

Nick was killed instantly. Because his injuries were limited to his head, the family was able to donate his organs. That provided some solace, Lautenbach says. But the shock was overwhelming.

“It was a journey I never thought I would go on,” she says.

At the time, Lautenbach, a lifelong Catholic, had been a lector and Eucharistic minister, and had gone on

to become a leader in a non-denominational bible study group. When the family moved to Paris, she started a community bible study there, and eventually became a teaching director in Vevey, Switzerland, expanding her role to teach other bible study leaders to form groups in their communities across Europe, she says.

With Nick’s death, she shifted her focus to pastoral care, helping others get through grief with the use of prayer.

As retirement neared for Dan Lautenbach, the couple bought a second

home in Sea Oaks in 2000, then moved here permanently in 2005 to a house and ocean cabana in Palm Island Plantation.

“Vero is the vacation we’ve always wanted to take,” she says. “Everything revolves around fun here. You get on the party train in October and it doesn’t stop until May.”

In Vero, Vickie Lautenbach finally fulfilled a lifelong dream: she opened an interior design shop, Elegance by the Sea. The shop, originally on Cardinal Drive, recently relocated to a store-

front in the Village Shops, now filled with retail home furnishings including fine linens and candles, while the back office serves for consultations for her design business.

Meanwhile, daughter Emilie, a senior at Flagler College and avid equestrian, visits often, hoping to get a job in Wellington. Last week, she joined in when the family had its annual day of remembrance for her brother.

“We keep him alive,” says Lautenbach. “It’s not the elephant in the room.”



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## Arts/Theatre

## Art for the sake of others

BY L.L. ANGEL  
COLUMNIST

Whether sculpting a sea turtle for the Mental Health Association's fundraiser, decorating a tree for Riverside Children's Theatre's Festival of Trees, masterminding Samaritan Center's annual Soup Bowl, or painting her newest canvas, Shotsi Cain LaJoie cre-

ates art for art's sake.

And for the sake of others, charity is never far from her mind.

A member of the Tiger Lily Studio and Art Gallery, she co-chaired last week's Soup Bowl for the Samaritan Center, even as she prepared for her next big event at Tiger Lily, the annual Holiday Open Studio, next Friday, Nov. 20. The gallery's seven artists prepare



Artist Shotsi LaJoie works on a clay sculpture of the Infant Jesus of Prague for Festival of Trees. Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.



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for months for what is typically a huge event - last year, the gallery was alive with more than 300 people.

She will present her latest works for collectors the previous day, when the gallery holds a preview day. While many pieces are sold that evening, the opening night crowd prevents the intimacy of the preview day, she explains. "The serious art buyer needs time to look at and discuss the art," she says.

LaJoie's enthusiastic advocacy for a number of charities is only half of this artist's work equation. Along with making what she calls "public art," LaJoie is constantly growing as an artist.

"If I don't know how to do something, I'll figure it out," she says. "Someone will show me, or God will guide me."

Consider her latest sea turtle, commissioned by a John's Island couple as a donation to the Mental Health Association. Standard issue for all artists is the 5-by-5 foot fiberglass turtle mold. LaJoie decorated last year's turtle with mosaic glass. Sadly, the turtle cracked.

"I realized that the physics involved in gluing sea glass to fiberglass meant that the work would always eventually crack," she explains.

To prevent another cracked turtle this year, LaJoie decided to make her model out of concrete. To that end, she attended a concrete camp at Bell Buckle, Tenn., last summer, where she learned how to do just that, in a process she says "took about 14 million hours."

First, LaJoie made a drawing of her turtle. Next, she built an armature, a skeletal metal framework, which she



encased in polystyrene, then covered with fiberglass, mesh, and cement.

After some mentoring from a blacksmith, she pounded the turtle's shell out of copper plate. Last, she applied the myriad pieces of shimmering mosaic glass - some 2,000 pieces.

"From my previous turtles, I know every sea glass person in the country," she says. "There's a guy in San Francisco who dives for this stuff."

In particular, she needed 250 pieces of black glass, some it dating from the 1600s. "That took him awhile," she says.

Not all the pieces are the oldest, black sea glass. Many date from the 1800s, and some are more contemporary, though worn. LaJoie loves their endless variety.

"There are brown pieces with the old Clorox stamp, little handles of jugs," she says, "and that beautiful aquamarine."

LaJoie's unique sea turtle measures 4 by 4 feet, slightly smaller than the standard fiberglass models given to artists. Along with its smaller size, the more deftly shaped flippers give the turtle the appearance of truly swim-

# Arts/Theatre

ming underwater.

LaJoie started out as a rank amateur at the potter's wheel 23 years ago when she enrolled in the Vero Beach Museum of Art's first pottery class. Her oldest son, Christopher, was a toddler. Today he's a 25-year-old musician living in Orlando.

Her first pottery teacher was Glenda Taylor, one of the founding members of Tiger Lily and a studio mate.

"I signed up for the pottery class thinking, anyone can throw a pot," she says with a laugh. "I found out I couldn't throw one to save my life."

Before her first son was born, LaJoie, a native of Chicago and a graduate of St. Mary's College at Notre Dame, was a businesswoman working for a title company in Chicago's financial district.

"I was the first female professional in accounting. It was the '70s and I was 24."

On a leap of faith she accepted a transfer to the firm's Miami office where she worked for four years. In 1981, recently married, LaJoie relocated to Vero Beach, and bought a house on Flamingo Drive, her home today.

LaJoie, since divorced, left the business world for motherhood. Eventually, she would have three sons. Along with Christopher, there is Travis, 21, a chemistry and math major at the University of Florida and Byron, a freshman at Indian River State College.

LaJoie devoted herself to raising her three boys and to creating art. As they grew, she pursued another longtime interest in psychotherapy, and in 2005 La Joie received her degree in psychotherapy. Now a licensed and practicing psychotherapist, she sees patients in the public and private sector.

"My goal was to be a part-time artist and a part-time psychotherapist," says LaJoie.

Coincidental to her receiving her psychotherapy degree, Tiger Lily's artists were moving into their current

location and invited LaJoie to join them.

"I came without a body of work. I was doing commissions out of my house," she explains. "But Tiger Lily's



LaJoie works on a clay sculpture at Tiger Lily Art Studios.

"This is a Huichol Indian image that we saw everywhere in Taos. I painted seven so there's one for each of us."

"This was a giant blank canvas in my bedroom for five years," she says.

mission is intriguing. We're not here to sell art. We're here to become the best artists we can be and to support one another in that."

In pursuit of that, the seven Tiger Lily artists traveled to Taos, New Mexico, that same year, on a pilgrimage of inspiration.

The trip led her to create her first painting ever, a riot of brilliant, magical-looking shapes and figures that fill every inch of the canvas.

The painting, practically vibrating with life, is called "The Seven Gifts of the Spirit." Exotic birds soar across a starry night sky above mountains dotted with three small crosses. In the foreground, seven small blue figures dance along the bottom of the canvas, orange zig-zags whirling from their heads. Shaped like plump bowling pins, each wears a belt of fringelike flowers.

"I couldn't get my vision for it. This is what came to me from the Taos trip. It sold the first five minutes of our show that year."

Apart from the turtle, another sculpture was inspired by a memory from childhood: six heads in bathing caps.

"I grew up when we had to wear bathing caps in public pools," says La Joie. "Driving back home in the car after lessons, we'd all be pulling the flowers off our hats with our teeth."

The female heads are made of white Portland cement, and covered with polystyrene. Their bathing caps are made of glazed handmade tiles adorned with Venetian glass and sea glass.

"Each face is different because I sculpt them," she says. The heads are meant to be art for outdoors. "These can go by the pool. It can rain on them."

Right now, La Joie is working on her newest creation, a 4-foot high totem pole of Adam and Eve. "It's inspired by a Henry Moore show I saw on the way to concrete camp. I have every expectation to have it finished for our opening this month."

Tiger Lily Studio and Art Gallery Annual Holiday Open Studio is Friday, Nov. 20 from 5 p.m. to 8 pm. The preview party is Thurs., Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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## Arts/Theatre

# Jennifer Hawthorne: 'Chicken Soup for the Impact 100'

BY MICHELL GENZ  
STAFF WRITER

It will be a different sort of Monday morning meeting for the 200 Vero Beach women of Impact 100, philanthropists who spend a lot of time looking at the lives of others.

This time, with the help of best-selling author Jennifer Read Hawthorne, they will have a chance to reflect on their own lives. Hawthorne, a permanent resident of Vero since she moved from Fairfield, Iowa thirteen months ago, co-authored "Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul" and "Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul," both of which rose to Number One on the New York Times Best Sellers list, as well as five others books in a similar vein.

Her latest work is focused on not so much the outcomes but the way we live our lives. "Life Lessons for Loving the Way You Live" came to Hawthorne at a time when the circumstances of her life weren't at all to her liking. But when she viewed her manner of attack and her strategy for getting through the rough spots, she found herself proud and pleased – she liked how she was going about the problem-solving.

Loving the method, if not the madness it addresses, is essential, she says, in a life we cannot control. "Going



Speaker and author Jennifer Hawthorne sits in the room at her home where she does her writing.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

through life, it's probably 50-50, about like the divorce rate," she says with a wry smile. "We cannot control the cir-

cumstances of our lives, though we think we can and we can do our best. Unexpected things large and small

come into our lives – who's going to call and need something, who's going to drop by? We don't even control our thoughts that come into our minds."

Yet people want quick fixes. They look to her for training, as if she can prescribe happiness. Even the spiritual seekers she encounters come at meditation practice in a similar way: "Can you give us a technique, so I can hurry up and get enlightened?"

The new book has as its subhead: "Seven Essential Ingredients for Finding Balance and Serenity."

"Peace is the ability to notice the ups and downs of life, the pleasures and the pains," says Hawthorne. "We think happiness is equal to pleasure, but pleasure's always going to disappear." Some source of grief, she says, is inevitably going to come into our lives.

Recognizing that duality, that one arena doesn't exist without the other, is the only way to find the peace, she says, to say simply: "This is my life today."

"And it's looking pretty good," she adds, with this caveat: "But who knows what it'll be like tomorrow?"

If we're satisfied with the way we go about coping with our lives, the problems themselves will take on less sway.

These days, one recurring problem

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# Arts/Theatre

in Hawthorne's life is off the table – snow. It was Vero's warmth that drew her here, as her tolerance of winters in Minnesota and Iowa waned with each successive winter. "It was a matter of which level of parka to put on each day – I had seven coats," she says. "Something happened as I aged. I just desire warmth."

Vero's summer's heat was not a problem. "Uhn-uhn, honey, I can handle it, trust me. There's an ocean or a pool I can jump into. Oh my God, it's heaven."

She has also scaled back on the compulsion to generate words. Now, she is editing others' writings, and discovering she has analytical skills she "never knew the strength of."

"Editing for other people, I don't have the deadlines, yet I feel like I'm making a significant contribution. It's exciting to me to be recognizing these skills and to use them for other people." The change fits in with another bit of self-awareness, that has to do with ego, she says.

"The quest to be somebody is a theme that runs through our culture. We want to be noticed and we want to have value. But that's starting to change for me. My need to be somebody is diminishing. I'm really happy to take a back seat."

Hawthorne wonders if the change is due to years of meditation – she is a strong advocate and life-long practitioner, having lived in Fairfield, home of the Maharishi University, where most of the population practices Transcendental Meditation. She is one of a growing number of residents there who have discovered Vero Beach and are moving here for its serenity and natural beauty, along with its cultural scene and increasing interest in alternative fields of medicine, architecture and spirituality.

Still, it seem incongruous, from her spacious condo in Fairwinds, to hear of the ambitions of her friends in the context of Vero. "I know people killing themselves to have more money, more fame and to go to cool events, like, 'Oh, I've got to meet the Dalai Lama!'"

Like her international circle of friends in late middle age, her family too was colorful.

Her late mother was British and "one of the most beautiful people I've ever known," she says. Her father was a master story teller. Growing up in Louisiana, Hawthorne, the oldest of three girls, remembers begging him for a bedtime story; he wrote more than 500 original Br'er Rabbit stories. "But we always wanted a new one." A well-known newscaster in Baton Rouge – the first, in fact, he was a well-known personality, and told his tales

at parties and arts festivals and became a fixture in the area.

Clearly, Hawthorne inherited the gene. Her father remembers her coralling all the neighborhood kids to their yard, and making them sit in the driveway to listen to her talks.

"As early as elementary school, I would be the one to take another classmate aside to help them learn lines for the class play." The family was very politically aware, she says. When she went away to college at LSU, she studied journalism and broadcasting, and moved to Washington to be close

to the national political scene.

"It was the late '60s, and I was very anti-war." Though the scene was stimulating, she found herself one day stepping into the Peace Corps offices off DuPont Circle, and spontaneously filling out an application. She ended up teaching English in West Africa. There, she says, she further absorbed the culture of telling stories, and the inspiration they can bring.

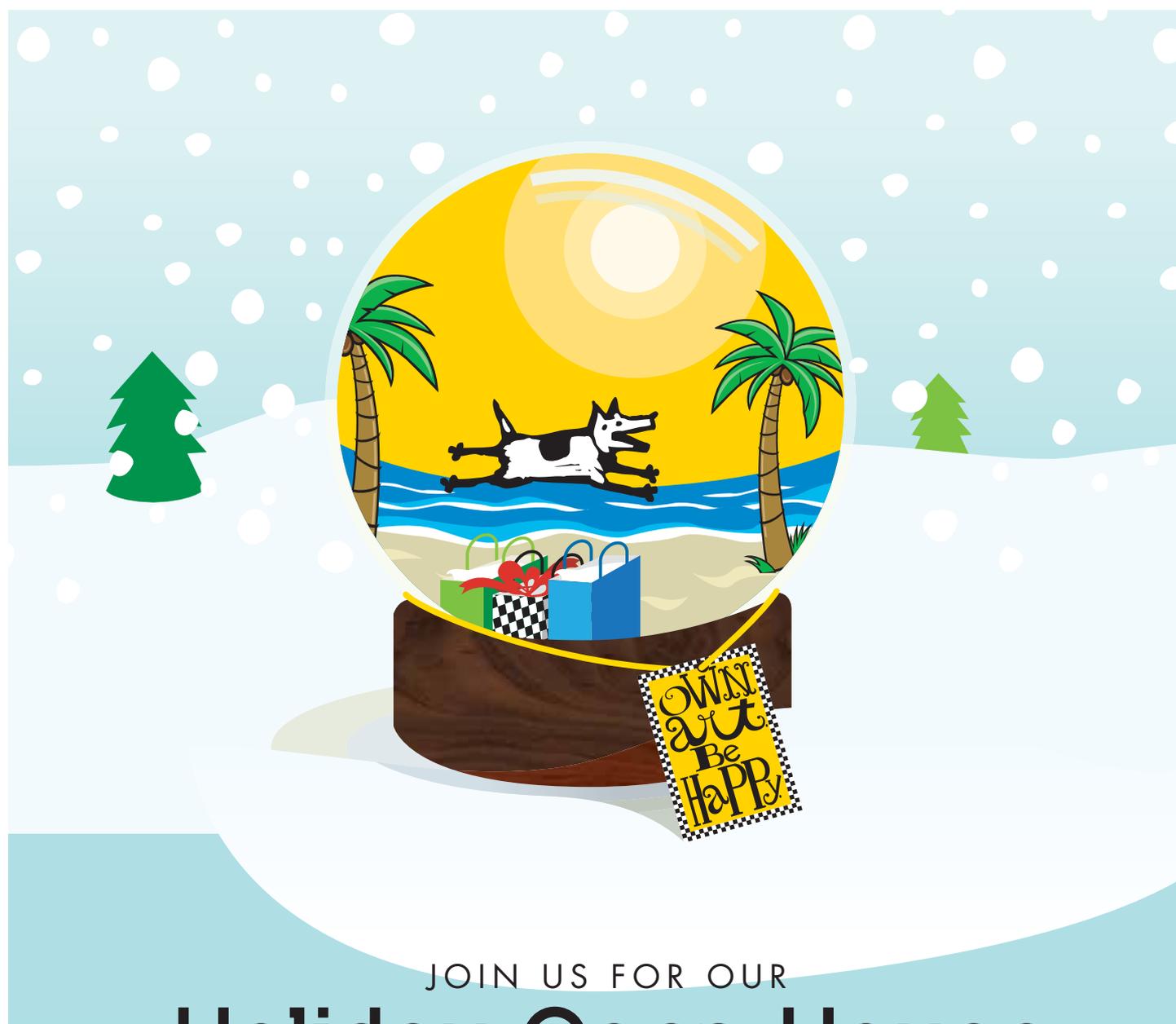
When she returned, she began a long career in writing and inspirational speaking.

She developed a number of pro-

grams in arenas including technical and business writing, as well as self-esteem programs which she led for numerous corporations.

With them, she joined in the Deerfield Beach-based inspirational book series to co-author the two books that won her national acclaim.

Registration for the season kick-off breakfast, at the Oak Harbor Clubhouse, begins at 8:30 a.m., Nov. 16, with Read's speech at 9 a.m. and a book-signing following. Cost is \$20. Reservations are required. Contact info@impact100ir.com.



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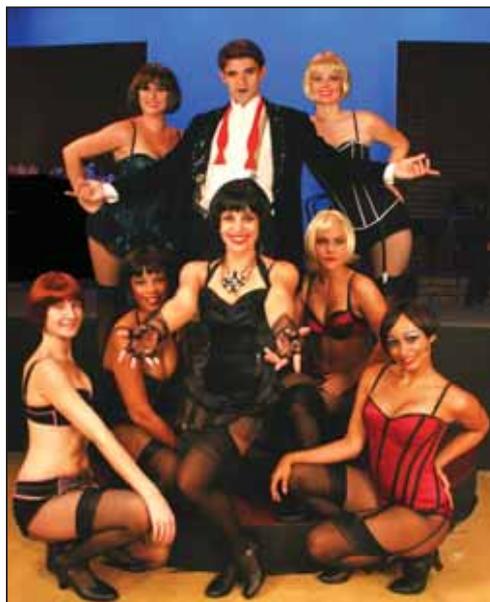
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## Vero's 'season' is in full swing

MARY SCHENKEL  
 COLUMNIST

### Theatre

The razzle-dazzle of the Kit Kat Club comes to Vero in the lively Broadway musical "Cabaret" which opens at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild Nov. 12, running through Nov. 29. "Leave your troubles outside," reminds it's colorful emcee Robert Johnston.



Top row: Amber Garr, Bobby Johnston (center), Jocelyn Sample. Bottom row: Amanda Jordan, Danielle Parris (center), Holly Marie, Dani Zimmerman.

Set in Berlin in 1931, and surrounded by the turmoil of Nazi political activity, *Cabaret* focuses on the doomed romances of two couples who fear their fates. The musical, based on the book by Joe Masteroff, has won 12 Tony awards. Music is by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Cobb. Director Mark Wygonik reminds audiences that this Broadway musical with its bold political overtones, was considered the most important and influential show of the 1960s. For ticketing information, call 562-8300 weekdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or visit VBTG.com.

A new adaptation of the classic holiday story, *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* by Joe Landry, comes to the Riverside Theatre stage Nov. 19 to Dec. 6. The play, adapted from the Frank Capra film, presents a live 1940's radio broadcast in this stage adaptation, following the timeless story of George Bailey and the denizens of Bedford Falls With original music by composer Ken Clifton and a cast that features some Riverside Theatre favorites, this production is a great way to start a beautiful holiday season and the perfect show for the whole family. Purchase a special family pack - buy one adult ticket and get one child ticket (ages 6-18) free. Call: 231-6990 or visit [www.riversidetheatre.com](http://www.riversidetheatre.com).

What do you get when you combine visual arts with music?

Local artist James Harrington has done just that with his latest pieces of work, inspired by the Atlantic Classical Orchestra. You can see his Musical Impressions exhibition at the Admiralty Gallery, 3315 Ocean Drive, through Nov. 30.

During the month of November, gallery owner Ann McEvoy will be donating 10 percent of the proceeds to support the orchestra. Orchestra founder Andrew McMullan, current conductor Stewart Robertson and soloists Sha Zhang and Jonah Kim are portrayed in some of the pieces.

For additional information, call 231-3178 or visit [www.admiraltygallery.com](http://www.admiraltygallery.com).

The Artists Guild Gallery has moved from Royal Palm Pointe into its new home at 1974 14th Ave., in the heart of the historical downtown district. The large, beautiful space is the ideal spot for growth for the cooperative gallery. Membership comprises numerous diverse artists and their medium including Penny Aliyetti, watercolor; Marjorie Bohler, watercolor; Gail Bartholomay, watercolor, and pen and ink; Sue Dinunno, oil; Genny Ekstrom, oil; Annette Gekle, oil; Sue Gwinn, pastel and oil; Jo Kelly, watercolor; Julie Lounibos, oil; Janel Lund, sculpture and watercolor; Dawn Mill, acrylic; Sharon Sandel, oil; Fran San Miguel, oil; Lionel Ogilvie, oil; Rachel Senne, watercolor; Rita Sprague, acrylic; Betty Wade, watercolor; and Rita Ziegler, oil.

The featured show in November takes viewers on "A Tropical Journey," with works in oil by noted Florida landscape artist and gallery member Lionel Ogilvie. The show will feature over 20 of his works, and will be on display Nov. 2 through Nov. 30. For further information and for the Gallery art class schedule, call 299-1234, or visit [www.artistsguildgallery.com](http://www.artistsguildgallery.com).

Tiger Lily Art Studios and Gallery, just down the street at 1903 14th Ave., will host an open studio with a Found Fired Focused and Framed theme Friday, Nov. 20 from 5 to 8 p.m., with a special public preview Thurs., Nov. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The studio, located in a historic old church, displays works by a talented group of women artists: Chris Adams Johnson, Julia Carter, Shotsi Lajoie, Jill Pease, Linda Proctor, Sharon Sexton and Glenda Taylor.

Diversity and ingenuity are partnered with skill and creativity to produce works of art using sculpture, photography, fine ceramics, paintings in oil and acrylic, concrete, clay, wood, metal and found objects. The artists will be available to discuss the nature of their work style and

# My Vero



Chris Adams Johnson's  
Sunset. 16" x 16" x 2"  
acrylic and paper pulp

process. Two of the Samaritan Center Soup Bowl Tureens, crafted by Tiger Lily artists Sharon Sexton and Glenda Taylor, and

Soup Bowl artists, Nancy Blair, Sean Clinton and Maria Sparsis will also be raffled off at the opening. For more information, call 778-3443 or visit [www.tigerlilyvero.com](http://www.tigerlilyvero.com).

Take a break for some lunchtime learning at the *Vero Beach Museum of Art* with "A Taste of Art History: Selections from the National Gallery of Art." The program uses recent and archival video materials to offer some small bites of art history on a variety of art and artists. Each video program is introduced by Marshall Adams, VBMA director of education, in the Leonhardt Auditorium.

Renaissance Europe is featured in upcoming November and December sessions. Nov. 19: "Masters of Illusion"; Dec. 3: "Leonardo: To Know How To See"; Dec. 10: "The Feast of the Gods"; Dec. 17: "The Christmas Story in Art."

The Museum's Lunch and Learn group also returns with special guided gallery tours beginning at 12:30 p.m. followed by an exchange of ideas and lunch at 1 p.m. at Chelsea's at The Museum Cafe. Nov. 13 and Dec. 4: "Sanctuary: Anna Tomczak Photography"; Nov. 20, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18: "Innovation and Change: Great Ceramics from the Ceramics Research Center," Arizona State University Art Museum Collection. For more information, call 231-0707 ext. 136 or visit [www.vero-beachmuseum.org](http://www.vero-beachmuseum.org).

Mark your calendars and plan to spend the evening of Dec. 1 taking a holiday stroll in historic downtown Vero Beach. Organizers have established a rolling schedule so attendees can participate in different events throughout the whole downtown area. "A Holiday Stroll: Downtown Dine and Design" runs from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., with businesses located on 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Old Dixie Hwy., south of S.R. 60.

A Mad Potters Tea Party will run from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cultural Council office and lobby of the Theatre Plaza Building, north of SR 60, between 20th and 21st Streets. And the Southeast Gallery of Photographic Art will host a new exhibit reception from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at their gallery, located at 1446 19th Pl., on westbound SR 60. The evening includes raffle prizes and tickets are available at the Cultural

Council of Indian River County and Gallery 14. For additional information call 770-4857 or visit [www.cultural-council.org](http://www.cultural-council.org).

Once every year, the Vero Beach Museum of Art Contemporaries takes the hottest party in town out of the Museum setting and stages it in one of Vero's outstanding art galleries for its annual Art Around Town event. This year, *Gallery 14* will host the event, Dec. 3, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Join other young professionals to meet and mingle with Gallery 14 artists and view their new works. Bring a friend, social-

ize, network, and enjoy wine and light refreshments. At just \$10 per person, it's the best night out in Vero Beach for youngish singles and couples alike. For information call Dane Roberts at 231-0707 ext. 109.

### Music

Individual performance tickets are now being sold for the 2009-2010 series of concerts produced by the *Indian River Symphonic Association*. The series will begin in January, in the newly renovated sanctuary of the Community Church of Vero Beach. Although the

season opener is later than usual due to the renovation schedule, the series promises to be an exciting one. In addition to three concerts performed by the Brevard Symphony Orchestra, there will also be performances by the Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin, the Philharmonia of the Nations, and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, with conductor JoAnn Falletta. All concerts begin at 7:20 p.m. For tickets and information call 778-1070 or visit [www.irsavero.org](http://www.irsavero.org).

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## Health

# Wound Center brings 'gold standard of care' to Vero

BY LISA ZAHNER  
STAFF WRITER

A wound can take a long time to heal, but there is a place in Vero Beach specializing in making sure that finally, it does.

The Indian River Medical Center Wound Healing Center opened in March 2005 and it's just southeast of the hospital on the same campus. Just yards from the main entrance in the back of the Ambulatory Services Center, many potential patients still don't know it's there.

Established as a partnership with National Healing Corp., which works with hospitals all over the country to provide what Program Director Carrie Deprey describes as the "gold standard of care" in wound healing to Vero Beach patients, the center holds clinics four days a week and sees 125-130 patients per week through its doors.

The center has the capacity to care for 200-250 patients per week and they are preparing to handle more by



Penny Rakowsky is treated by Dr. Alita Gonsalvez for a leg wound at the Wound Healing Center.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

adding two more doctors in January, including outgoing Chief of Staff Dr.

Charles Callahan. On staff are specialists in podiatry, vascular medicine, pulmonary medicine, general surgery, physical medicine, rehabilitation and infectious disease.

created by the center's two hyperbaric chambers. This system delivers extra oxygen to the cells to speed up healing. Each patient is evaluated with their complete medical history taken

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Robert Dundas undergoes oxygen therapy in the monoplace hyperbaric chamber.

These areas of expertise are needed to provide the specific treatment that each patient needs, depending on the underlying health conditions and the type of help the body needs to heal the wound. Some patients simply need special help with cleaning and dressing the wound on a regular basis to prevent or clear up an infection.

Others need to spend some time in a 100 percent oxygen environment

into account, including underlying health issues such as diabetes or blood disorders, and the use of prescription medications that may affect the rate of healing.

Duprey said the vast majority of patients are referred by local doctors who notice that a patient is not healing fast enough. But if a patient has been released from their doctor after an injury or surgery — or if they only went to



Carrie Deprey, Program Director

ing Center and soon completed the required one-week training at Ohio State University to be able to hold clinics at the center.

Also on staff at Vero Orthopaedics, Gonsalves said it's rewarding to bring these healing services and technologies to her patients and, even after receiving her training at the prestigious institutions of Columbia University and Cornell University, that she's still upgrading her medical skills by gaining experience with the techniques

used at the center.

"With the type of medicine I practice, I treat a great deal of chronic pain from injuries and illness and patients sometimes take a very long time to get better or, due to the nature of what they're facing, they don't get better," she said. "Here, patients come in with wounds that we can care for and heal and they get better in a fairly short period of time."

Most patients — about 89 percent — heal their wounds in 12 to 16 weeks,

or an average of 20 to 40 treatments.

The most common types of wounds that Gonsalves and the other doctors see at the center are from diabetic ulcers, traumatic injuries, dog bites, burns and sores from lack of mobility such as people in a nursing home setting or confined to a wheelchair or to a bed much of the time. Unhealed wounds, whether infected or not, can be a source of pain and anxiety for patients and a cause for concern for their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

the emergency room and have had no follow-up care — they may self-refer. As long as the wound meets the proper criteria, some level of treatment at the IRMC Wound Healing Center usually is covered by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance.

Mrs. Myzell "Penny" Rakowsky, a 36-year resident of John's Island, has been coming to the IRMC Wound Healing Center to help take care of a leg wound she incurred from closing the car door on her leg. Having been to the center before, the 90-year-old knew that the center's doctors would help her get back to her active lifestyle.

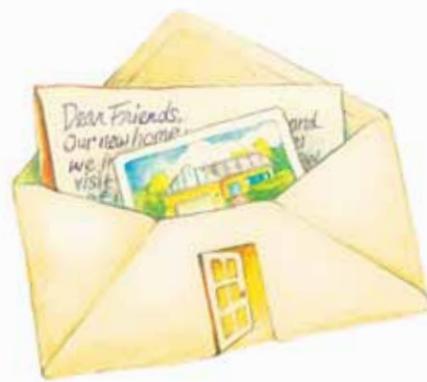
"It's been excellent, I come here and they help you take care of it," she said. "They help you dress the wound and check it and make sure that it's not infected."

Rakowsky began coming to the center for her leg wound in August and said she's got about another week to go on her treatments, when she will ring the "Healed Bell" posted near the exit. Every patient rings the bell when they leave after their last treatment as a rite of passage. And the bell-ringing, too, serves as motivation to stick with the treatments.

"I want to go swimming in the pool and get back to exercising in the pool," Rakowsky said. "That's going to be my graduation, to get to ring the Healed Bell."

Dr. Alita Gonsalves is one of seven physicians who work under Medical Director and vascular surgeon Dr. W. Clark Beckett. Gonsalves joined the Wound Healing Center in the fall of 2008 after seeing patients in her physical medicine and rehabilitation practice with wounds that weren't healing well. She looked into getting help for those patients, found the Wound Heal-

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# Health

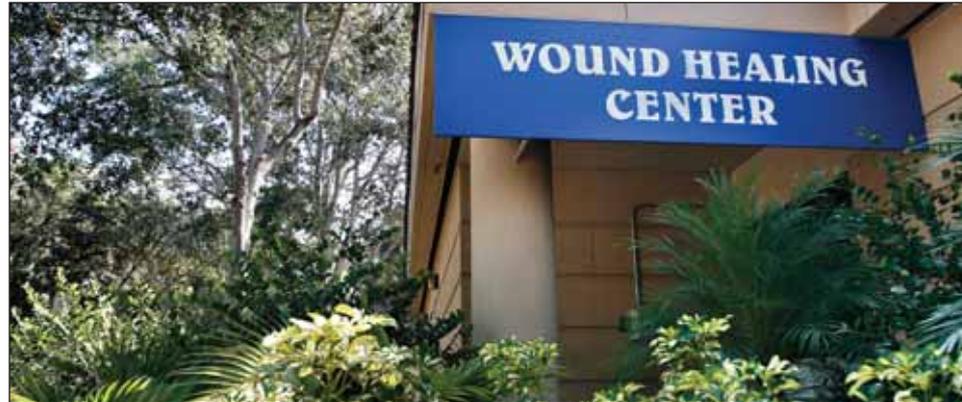
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

caregivers and family members.

She said many patients would benefit from time in the hyperbaric oxygen chamber, but that only a small percentage of patients meet the requirements to have the treatments paid for by their insurance.

"It's like a diving-type atmosphere with pressure and oxygen and it helps," she said.

Many of the center's patients, due to age, infirmity or the nature of their



wounds, cannot naturally increase the blood circulation — and therefore the oxygenation — to the wound by usual means such as exercising. The hyperbaric chamber helps to send the needed oxygen without causing stress or further injury to the patient. A trained staff member is constantly present in the room while the patient is in the chamber, usually for about four hours at a time, once a week.

Gonsalves said patients can help the healing process along by eating a balanced diet rich in Vitamin C, zinc and protein to make sure the body has the raw materials that it needs to heal.

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**Possible reasons why a wound has not healed**

- Underlying health causes such as diabetes
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- Repeated abrasion to or pressure on the wound
- Lack of oxygenation or blood circulating to the wound
- The presence of infection, which could be under the surface of the skin
- Improper nutritional balance in the diet



**If you have a wound that has not healed in two to three weeks:**

- Call your doctor, or self-refer to the IRMC Wound Healing Center
- You will be asked about the wound and about your medical history, to determine what might be causing the delay in healing
- Test can reveal the level of blood flow and oxygenation to the area and if there is infection present
- The IRMC Wound Healing Center physicians develop a treatment program, which normally involves regular visits to the center
- Progress is monitored, documented and communicated to your regular doctor



**Treatment options**

Depending on the type and extent of the wound and the reasons why it is not healing, the doctors at the IRMC Wound Healing Center may prescribe:

- Hyperbaric oxygen therapy
- Bio-engineered tissue substitutes
- Negative-pressure wound therapy
- Growth-factor therapies
- Advanced dressings and wraps
- Debridement

# Beachside dentist helps patients with dental anxiety

BY MICHELLE GENZ  
STAFF WRITER

For someone facing a tight schedule and a lot of dental work, the prospects of arranging a series of appointments is anxiety-producing enough. Add to that the anxiety people frequently have – to varying degrees — about having their teeth worked on in the first place, and you may never get them in the chair.

With enough psychological deterrents, even people in urgent need of dental care can put off going for treatment, ultimately risking a worsening condition and more appointments down the road.

With sedation methods most general dentistry practitioners have at their disposal, either nitrous oxide – laughing gas — or a pill like Halcyon, patients can be calmed.

But a deeper level of sedation normally used by oral surgeons allows a dentist to work on a patient for up to three hours at a clip. Furthermore, unlike oral sedation – taking a pill, the patient isn't groggy when the drug is stopped. He or she can walk out of the office, as opposed to being wheeled out in a wheel chair, and get back to the office for that 4 o'clock meeting.

A new dentist on the island is offering IV sedation, having received the additional training necessary. Dr. Matthew Henry, who bought the practice of Dr. Richard Huot just over a year ago, uses a broad range of drugs to achieve the state known as Deep Conscious Sedation, but typically uses a combination of Versed and Fentanyl intravenously.

"I'm able to take you a little deeper and it's a lot shorter" getting back to normal, he says. "I'm able to dial in for the procedure, whereby a Halcyon pill is typically six hours of grogginess. The amnesia can extend well beyond the dental procedure, and you might not feel quite right for a day or so. It's not dangerous, but it's an inconvenience. There's less control with dosing. With an IV you get exactly what you need."

The IV sedation also causes a more complete amnesia of the procedure, Henry says, another advantage over pill or nitrous oxide.

The sedation is not normally covered by insurance, though Henry points out that dental anxiety, which he says affects an estimated 30 to 40 percent of the patient population, can keep a patient away until the problem becomes even more expensive to treat.

"It's surprising that insurance companies don't want to treat an anxiety that makes patients avoid the dentist," he says. "It would cost them a lot less money to get people into a prevention cycle, versus an intervention or emer-

gency treatment cycle."

Anxiety typically occurs in younger patients, in their mid-20s to 40s, he says. "It is a younger generational thing, though I've seen it in every age."

IV sedation is rare in general dentistry because of the extra training required; no other general dentistry practitioners on the beach offer the

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# Health

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

service, and there is only one on the mainland who does.

Beyond his deep conscious sedation training in the Air Force, Henry trained for a year under a general anesthesiologist dentist, Lee Weiss, in Plantation. Weiss treated medical waiver patients for the state of Florida, a government subsidized program that helps special needs patients, both emotional and physical.

During that time, Henry, 33, the son of a dentist who was past president of the Florida Dental Association, worked part-time for Dr. Huot, driving up to Vero Beach and staying at Huot's guesthouse.

Since selling Henry his practice, Huot, an Air Force reservist, has been consulting to the dental corps of the Air Force; he holds the rank of colonel.

Henry, raised in Pensacola, graduated from Florida State University. He went to dental school on an Air Force scholarship that required him to put in three years of service; he practiced at Warner Robbins Air Force Base in Georgia.

In 2005, he headed to the Miami area, where his wife Joanna was doing



Dr. Matthew Henry stands amongst the television monitors, lights and dental equipment at Beachside Dental.

Photo: Tom McCarthy Jr.

a residency in anesthesiology at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

She now practices at Holmes Re-

gional Medical Center in Melbourne.

"With what I do, it's great to have a wife who's an anesthesiologist. I con-

sult her on a lot of cases," he says. "If I ever have a question, I can talk to her about it."

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# More Americans flock to untested alternative medicines

BY TAMMY WORTH  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Leon Wittman tweaked his shoulder in 1994 while attempting to keep his basement from flooding during a thunderstorm by scooping water out of a window well with a bucket.

His left arm began to ache. He realized about a year later that he rarely used it anymore and could no longer comfortably sleep on that side. A physician said the only cure was surgery.

Wittman and his wife Charlene have always shied away from physicians, preferring to "maintain a good attitude, drink lots of water and figure things out on our own," as he puts it. And so he opted instead to try a pain relief supplement that included acetaminophen, alfalfa, cramp bark and valerian root — which, he says, improved his shoulder within a month. The Shawnee, Kan., man now takes a glucosamine, chondroitin and MSM supplement.

Many Americans like Wittman choose to treat themselves with com-

plementary and alternative medicine in lieu of surgery, pharmaceuticals or other traditional care. Their numbers have been steadily climbing over the last decade. According to a July study from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, based on interviews with more than 23,300 adults during the 2007 National Health Interview Survey, almost 40 percent of adults use some form of complementary and alternative medicine to treat a variety of conditions

They spent about \$33.9 billion on these practices in 2007, accounting for about 11.2 percent of the public's total out-of-pocket health expenditures. In 1997, the last time such a survey was taken, the figure was \$27 billion.

"Whatever this amount of the population is doing is no longer fringe," says Dr. Tracy Gaudet, executive director of Duke Integrative Medicine, part of the Duke University Health System. "We have to figure out what they are looking for that they can't find in conventional medicine."

Medicine outside the mainstream

goes by many names — naturopathy, complementary, alternative and integrative medicine — partly because its umbrella covers almost any practice or product that is not generally taught in medical school or offered by traditional medical doctors. It encompasses a broad array of practices: crystal gazing, drinking green smoothies, taking fish oil, practicing yoga.

Alternative therapies are used most

commonly to treat conditions such as back, joint and arthritis pain, colds and depression. The new study found the most popular therapies to be natural products, deep breathing, meditation, chiropractic and massage.

Self-care, at \$22 billion, accounted for the majority of spending, mostly on nonvitamin, nonmineral, natural

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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# Health

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

products. The most popular supplements are fish oil, glucosamine, echinacea and flaxseed. Americans spent \$4 billion on yoga, tai chi and qigong classes, and \$2.9 billion on homeopathic medicine.

The survey found that visits to practitioners overall have decreased by about 50 percent since 1997, with the biggest drop seen by providers of energy healing and relaxation techniques. An exception was acupuncture, whose providers saw a threefold increase from 1997 to 2007.

For years, there has been a false assumption that users are anti-establishment and alternative types who choose it over conventional treatments — but the data suggests otherwise, complementary medicine experts say.

Dr. Mimi Guarneri, medical director of Scripps Center for Integrative Medicine in La Jolla, says that these are regular people who want more help staying well.

“The good news about Western medicine is that it responds well in an acute setting — if they have a heart attack, stroke or are hit by a car,” she says. “When you look at other healing

traditions, prevention is the first step, treatment is the last step.”

But the trend worries many medical experts, although they acknowledge that some alternative therapies seem useful — acupuncture for treating back pain, for example, and exercise and dietary changes for better regulation of blood sugar.

A 2008 study in the Mayo Clinic Proceedings found, for example, that patients who exercised, ate a low-fat diet and took fish oil and red yeast rice supplements over a three-month period reduced their bad, or LDL, cholesterol by 42 percent. A group taking the cholesterol medication Zocor saw a 39 percent LDL reduction.

But many more of the therapies are unproven or untested. Echinacea, ginkgo biloba and shark cartilage all came up ineffective in recent studies. A June Associated Press article highlighted the fact that after 10 years and \$2.5 billion in research, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine has not found any alternative medicine that works, save patients taking ginger for chemotherapy-induced nausea and limited uses for acupuncture, yoga, massage and relaxation techniques such as meditation.

Almost \$3 billion is spent annually on homeopathic medicine, for example, but there is no hard evidence to show that it is effective.

The treatment, which is based on the theory that “like cures like,” offers patients highly diluted solutions of natural substances that create similar symptoms. (An insomniac, for example, would be given a solution with a small amount of caffeine.) A number of homeopathy’s key concepts “are not consistent with the current understanding of science, particularly chemistry and physics,” the complementary medicine center notes on its website.

“I think people using alternative medicines are wasting their money and are being fooled into thinking they are getting something that is beneficial for them,” says Dr. Jerome Kassirer, distinguished professor at Tufts University School of Medicine and former editor in chief of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Then there’s the issue of safety. Herbs and supplements used by alternative health practitioners are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration because they are considered food, not pharmaceuticals. Thus, their purity is not guaranteed. The FDA has

identified concerns with some dietary supplements that have been adulterated with drugs, mislabeled or may contain harmful substances including kava, ephedra and comfrey. A listing of alerts is on its website at [www.fda.gov/Food/Dietary\\_Supplements/Alerts/default.htm](http://www.fda.gov/Food/Dietary_Supplements/Alerts/default.htm).

Some supplements — such as St. John’s Wort and ginkgo biloba — also are known to interfere with conventional drugs, but many supplement users do not discuss the supplements they take with their doctors.

Gaudet says that medical students at Duke — who are required as part of training to spend some time “loitering” in health food stores — find that most consumers get information on how to use supplements from the health food store clerks. And a 2007 study by the complementary center and AARP looking at medical practices of people aged 50 and older found that 63 percent have used some form of alternative medicine but less than one-third told their doctor.

“There are some of these alternative medicine potions that can be harmful,” Kassirer says. “And I think people treat themselves when they should be seeing a doctor, and that can result in a delay in necessary treatment.”

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# Adams, Jefferson hit the road in England

BY SUSAN SPANO  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LONDON—John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were American patriots, co-framers of the Declaration of Independence, our second and third presidents. Sometimes friends, sometimes rivals, they lived in tandem through our nation's difficult birth: Jefferson, the sophisticated Virginia planter, Adams, the Massachusetts yeoman farmer.

What is less well-known is that they once went tooting around the English countryside together in a hired coach.

David McCullough's Pulitzer Prize-winning Adams biography, the basis for last year's HBO "John Adams" miniseries, briefly mentions their trip. But the passage captured my imagination, and I recently decided to follow their route. As it turns out, the itinerary they devised offers as fine an introduction to England as any offered by modern tour companies.

In early April 1786, they set off on a six-day tour west from London along the Thames River Valley, then north to-



Blenheim Palace near Woodstock was built for the first Duke of Marlborough in an early 18th century design by John Vanbrugh.

My retracing of the trip started in Mayfair, one of London's most distinguished neighborhoods, where Adams lived from 1785 to 1788 in the aftermath of the American Revolution.

the Atlantic.

At one point in his London tenure, Adams wrote in his diary, "This people

cannot look me in the face. . . . They feel that they have behaved ill, and that I am sensible of it."

To house the embassy and his family, Adams rented a dignified stone house on the northeast corner of Mayfair's Grosvenor Square, still a peaceful urban oasis where nannies push prams and men in pinstriped suits read the Financial Times.

Strolling here, I found many reminders of the relationship between Great Britain and the U.S., including a Sept. 11 Memorial Garden, a bronze statue of President Franklin Roosevelt and a D-day plaque engraved with the order of the day, issued by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 6, 1944. "Soldiers, sailors and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force," it says. "You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade. . . . The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you."

The area remains a diplomatic center, home to the embassies of Canada,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 54



The Blenheim Palace garden, designed by Lancelot "Capability" Brown in 1764, features the Column of Victory, which is crowned by an image of the Duke of Marlborough.

ward Birmingham before circling back to the capital. Of course, I couldn't recreate their itinerary exactly. Some of the places they saw are long gone, in private hands or utterly transformed, like touristy Stratford-upon-Avon, which I'd seen before and therefore skipped.

But others — Blenheim Palace and the University of Oxford Botanic Garden, for instance — remain open to visitors who follow in the great Americans' footsteps, which help to explain their times, very different characters and complex relationship.

Before the war, Benjamin Franklin had served as an agent of the Pennsylvania colony in the English capital, but Adams was the first U.S. ambassador to the Court of St. James's.

He moved to England from France, where he had helped Franklin and John Jay negotiate the 1783 Treaty of Paris, in which the British crown recognized the colonies' independence. His new goal was to forge trade agreements with England, a difficult mission with tensions persisting between the defeated mother country and her erstwhile one-time territories across

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# Travel



Grosvenor Square

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53

Argentina and the U.S., housed in a huge, severe, modern building on the west side of the square. It was designed in 1960 by Eero Saarinen (he of St. Louis' Gateway Arch and the main terminal at Dulles International Air-

port in the Washington, D.C., suburbs) and widely reviled by traditionalists. Because the U.S. Embassy is often the scene of protests, it is surrounded by a forbidding security cordon.

Fortunately, its stately old predecessor, where Adams entertained Jefferson and celebrated the wedding of his

daughter Nabby to Col. William Smith, still stands across the square, bearing another touching plaque that says, "John Adams and Abigail Adams, his wife, through character and personality, did much to create understanding between the two English-speaking countries."

After paying my respects at the Adams house, I wandered through Mayfair looking for other American connections, which abound. During World War II, U.S. servicemen frequented Mount Street Gardens, tucked in the neighborhood just south of Grosvenor Square and nearby Grosvenor Chapel, an Anglican church.

The park, lined with benches donated by Americans, overlooks the Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception where Joseph Kennedy, father of President John F. Kennedy, worshiped while serving as U.S. ambassador to Britain from 1937 to 1940.

Berkeley Square Gardens, another fine Mayfair greensward now decorated with a gazebo, formerly displayed an equestrian statue, cast in lead, of occasionally irrational King George III,

the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia eight years earlier sprang to life again. Abigail, too, delighted in Jefferson's company.

Summoned to Grosvenor Square by Adams in April 1786 to assist in negotiations with the Barbary States of North Africa, Jefferson took time to enjoy the pleasures of London.

He attended the theater, shopped, dined in chophouses and studied, with his Monticello estate in mind, the new style of gardening developed by landscape artists such as Lancelot "Capability" Brown. Adams shared Jefferson's interest in English landscaping, which emphasized a natural look over the formal geometry of French gardens.

When negotiations stalled, the two men decided to visit some of these landscaped parks in the English countryside. The inimitable Mrs. Adams encouraged the project, feeling that her hard-working husband — whom she famously addressed in letters as "my dearest friend" — would benefit from a bit of fresh air.

Did Abigail stand at the Grosvenor



Painshill Park

who led England through the war with its American colonies. But the monument was removed in 1827, purportedly because the horse's legs buckled under the weight of the rider.

Shortly after their arrival in London, John and Abigail Adams were presented to the king, a stiff but amicable occasion. Jefferson, on the other hand, reported an ungracious reception when Adams later introduced him to the monarch and his ministers at St. James's Palace, moving the Virginian to say, "They require to be kicked into common good manners."

At the time, Jefferson was serving as minister to France, recently widowed and living in Paris, where his path had crossed Adams' in 1784. The friendship the men had forged while drafting

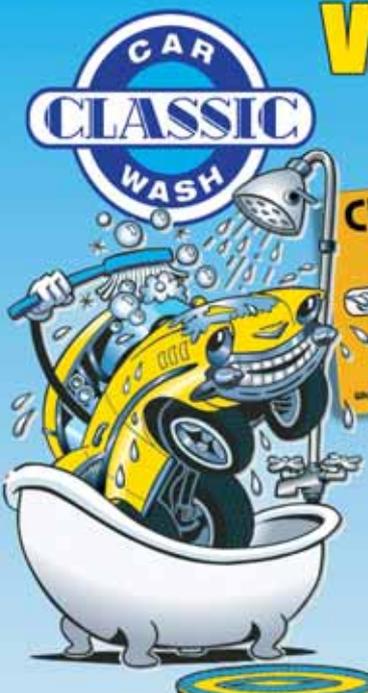
Square doorway waving them off? Was the coach seat well padded? How much luggage did they take? And what in the world did they talk about as they jangled along? Both men jotted down occasional thoughts but did not keep copious diaries because they were on vacation.

We know without a doubt that it was that glorious month, April, in England when the landscape is revarnished in spring green and the scent of lilacs hangs on the breeze. Both men were happiest on their home farms, the one in rocky, hardscrabble coastal New England, the other in the loamy Virginia piedmont.

And we know that the friendship between the two men — whose natures were as different as pepper and salt

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A plaque on the Grosvenor Chapel near the square. The chapel, founded in 1730, was a place for worship for American servicemen during World War II.



Oxford Botanic Garden in Autumn

— would later be strained by deep political disagreement. Jefferson, a proponent of states' rights, served as vice president during the Federalist Adams administration (1797-1801), then unseated him in the bitterly fought presidential election of 1800. For the next decade, there was only silence between them.

That is why their spring jaunt seems to me a golden moment, as McCullough wrote in his Adams biography, "the one and only time they ever spent off on their own together."

Just west of London, they toured Claremont Estate, now a fine English National Trust garden surrounded by a moat-like ditch instead of a fence. Jefferson later used this inventive late 18th century gardening technique, known as the ha-ha, at Monticello. It obscures the separation between the manicured estate and neighboring farm fields, thereby creating long, unobstructed views of the bucolic English countryside.

Nearby Painshill Park, another stop on the Adams-Jefferson itinerary, is an even better demonstration of the naturalistic English garden style that was later adopted in parks around the world. The cunningly planned vistas, including a vineyard and a 14-acre lake, reveal themselves in succession from a network of paths, winding past such surprises as a faux Gothic tower and Greek temple.

I stopped for the night in Weybridge on the River Thames, as did the American statesmen, but found the town's Ship Inn, a hostelry dating from 17th century, too modernized to recall their passage. In their day, though, it was part of a system of relay stations catering to royal mail, private and hired coaches, with postilions to care for the horses while drivers and passengers rested or supped.

The next stage of my trip took me north to the Oxfordshire village of Hai-

ley on the edge of the Cotswold Hills. There I stayed at the Bird in Hand, a reasonable facsimile of a coaching inn surrounded by a delightful maze of hedgerow-bordered, one-lane roads. Bumping along in a tiny rental car with about as much pickup as a golf cart, I could almost imagine myself in an 18th century coach-and-four until a man in a midlife-crisis convertible shot around the bend.

I was on my way to Blenheim Palace in the handsome town of Woodstock about 10 miles east of the inn, built by the first Duke of Marlborough and the birthplace of World War II Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The palace, designed in the early 1700s, is a Baroque gem surrounded by a 2,100-acre estate landscaped in 1764 by "Capability" Brown. Jefferson especially admired the lakes and waterfall, created by a dam Brown built on the Glyme River.

From here it is a pleasant 45-minute drive northeast to Stowe Landscape Gardens, on the grounds of an elite boarding school where young fellows play cricket in jaunty white suits. Before the school opened in 1923, Stowe was a vast country estate owned by the wealthy Temple-Grenville family whose scion, Richard Temple, began creating the great landscape garden there in 1714.

By the time Adams and Jefferson visited, Stowe was in its prime, renowned throughout Europe for its exquisite panoramas and exotic garden architecture, including a rotunda, Palladian bridge, grotto, Gothic ruins and Chinese pavilion. Adams, however, was not keen on the Temples of Venus and Bacchus, noting that people had "no need of artificial incitements to such amusements."

He vastly preferred Edgehill, tucked under a forested ridge a few miles east of Stratford-upon-Avon but grew apoplectic when he discovered local people did not know that one of the

most important battles of the English Civil War took place there in 1642. Today people walk their dogs on the battlefield and drink ale at the Castle Inn above it, seemingly as unaware of Edgehill's significance as ever.

The travelers were headed home by the time they reached Oxford, though they stopped to see the university's botanic garden, whose first incarnation was completed in 1633 on the River Cherwell. Jefferson tipped the gate-

keeper generously, but neither man recorded his impressions. Adams was probably eager to see Abigail, but Jefferson's wanderlust was unabated. He did more sightseeing in London before taking his leave weeks later.

I stopped to open my umbrella by the Herbaceous Border, a riot of flowers, and thought of the fair English sights I'd seen in the footsteps of Adams and Jefferson, fellow travelers, trusty guides.



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## Style

# Fashion disaster

## How the House of Versace went from rags to riches—and back again.

BY DANA THOMAS  
WASHINGTON POST WRITER'S GROUP

Donatella Versace, tiny, sculpted and forever blonde, was standing backstage after her menswear show at the Teatro Versace in Milan in June, receiving polite congratulations from a handful of editors and friends. The scene was positively dead compared with Versace shows a decade ago: no celebrities posing with Donatella for paparazzi, no bodyguards holding back the throngs, and no pals swilling champagne.

Donatella's brother Santo, in his usual charcoal suit with black turtleneck, came back for a few minutes to shake some hands. Her husband, American-born Paul Beck, tall and tan, stood alone in the corner; no one even noticed him. It all felt

feeble, pathetic—a sad, soulless charade to promote something that no longer exists.

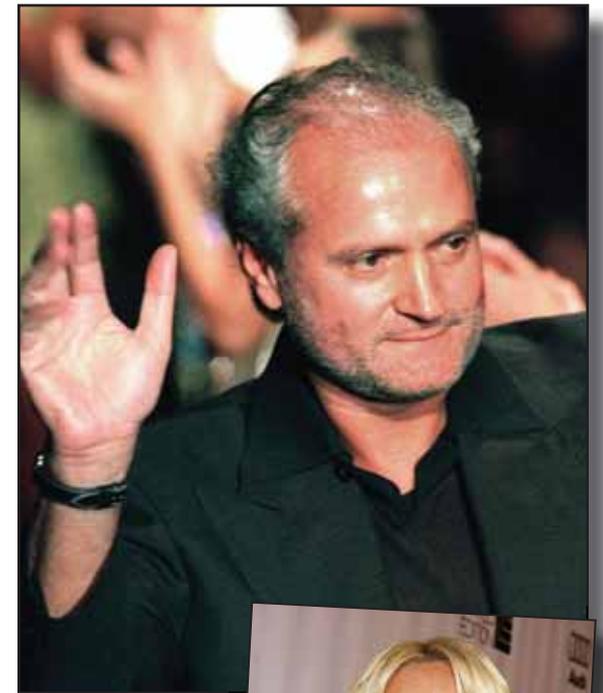
The nonscene is a reflection of how far the Italian fashion house has fallen since its founder's death. When Gianni Versace was murdered on the front steps of his Miami mansion in 1997, the company immediately announced that his strong-minded sister, Donatella, would take over as creative director and his brother, Santo, would be CEO.

The decision made sense at the time. The luxury fashion business was soaring, thanks to the new wealth of the Internet boom, and Gianni Versace was a favorite of the bling set, with his flashy designs, celebrity friends, and lavish lifestyle. The company was poised to become a luxury megabrand like Gucci, Giorgio Armani, and Louis Vuitton.

Instead, Donatella plunged into profound drug addiction and made erratic business and creative decisions. While competing fashion brands turned into global powers, Versace has watched its sales plummet from \$1 billion in 1996 to less than half that today. Major retailers such as Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman have dropped the line. The company has lost both its prestige and design influence.

Starting in 2003, after what Santo described as "seven years of woes," the Versace siblings acknowledged they couldn't run the company by themselves and hired a string of outside managers to straighten out the mess. But the outsiders failed too—in large part, Versace sources say, due to Donatella's and Santo's resistance to change. "The industry had changed and they did not evolve," says a former Versace executive who would speak only on condition of anonymity.

In June, Giancarlo di Risiso, Versace's CEO for five years, abruptly left. Sources say di Risiso proposed more rigorous cost-cutting—with a particular focus on its owners' high-flying lifestyle—and Donatella didn't agree. The House of Versace has denied this publicly and declined to com-



Donatella Versace

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Miami Beach mansion



Versace villa on Lake Como

ment for this story.

Immediately following di Riso's departure, the company hired management consultants at Bain & Co. to come up with a three-year plan to get back on track; it also hired a new CEO, Gian Giacomo Ferraris, from Jil Sander.

To some extent, it's remained business as usual at Versace: last month Donatella jetted off to New York to host the Whitney Museum's annual black-tie gala, which Versace sponsored, and then to Brazil for the Rio Rocks Fashion extravaganza, where she co-hosted a grand charity dinner at the Copacabana Palace and hung out with Diddy and photographer Mario Testino.

Days later, however, Ferraris announced the layoff of 350 employees—roughly a quarter of the company—as part of a “comprehensive corporate reorganization” to put Versace back in the black by 2011.

With the fashion industry still feeling the impact of the lingering recession, many in the business wonder whether Bain's prescriptions will be enough to save Versace.

“The old family way is not the new modern way,” says Tom Julian, president of the Tom Julian Group, a brand consultancy in New York City. “Whether it's McKinsey or Bain or Boston Consulting Group, these reputable firms have very strong recommendations, but it may not take hold or help the brand, given the hemorrhaging.”

For better or worse, the Versace siblings have always been devotees of the “old family way.” In their hometown of Reggio di Calabria in southern Italy, their father, Antonio, was a methane-gas and coal merchant; their mother, Francesca, was a dressmaker who had a shop called Elle. The family lived in an apartment above the store.

As a youth, Gianni helped his mother in the shop. “I shuttled back and forth

between Reggio and Messina, I took the ferry and each time tried to choose more beautiful and extraordinary materials,” he wrote in his book, *Designs*. Before his mother would cut expensive fabrics, he recalled, she would say a prayer.

Gianni's brother, Santo, who was two years older, studied business administration at the University of Messina and helped out on the commercial side of the mother's business. Their baby sister, Donatella—11 years younger than Gianni—hung out at the shop and was fascinated with fashion. She stomped around Reggio in platform shoes; as a teen, she was already bleaching her long hair platinum blonde.

In 1972, Gianni moved to Milan to work as a freelance fashion designer for a midpriced ready-to-wear brand. Donatella was studying in Florence to become a teacher, traveling to Milan on the weekends to party with Gianni.

By the mid-'70s, Gianni had decided to start his own fashion house, like fellow Milan designers Giorgio Armani and Gianfranco Ferré. With the help of Santo, Gianni put together the financing, and, in 1978, he launched Gianni Versace. Santo was the president, Donatella the muse.

Gianni's designs—short, tight, and shiny (inspired, he said, by Italian hookers)—shocked the staid Italian fashion establishment but quickly became a hit with the nightclub scene. And though fashion editors and retailers personally found Versace's silver metal-mesh minidresses and black leather microskirts to be vulgar—they were the absolute antithesis of Armani's quiet chic and Valentino's restrained elegance—they looked fantastic in store windows and magazine pages.

In a matter of a few seasons, Versace made tacky not only acceptable but enviable. The first year's sales were ap-

proximately \$15 million; within 10 years they reached \$353 million. In 1996 Versace topped the \$1 billion mark, with approximately half of revenues coming via licenses and 80 percent of sales coming from outside of Italy.

With his newly earned wealth, Gianni began to invest in serious real estate and live the decadent lifestyle that helped draw attention to the brand. In

1977 he bought an abandoned property on Lake Como, Italy, called Villa Fontenelle and set upon restoring it to its early 19th-century glory. In 1992 he paid \$2.9 million for the Amsterdam Palace, an elegant 1930s apartment complex on Miami's South Beach, and another \$3.7 million for the hotel next door, which he demolished to make room for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 58

the  
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Collection



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# Style

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

gardens and a swimming pool.

He rechristened it Casa Casuarina and flew in artisans to add sumptuous mosaics, frescoes, and fountains. Two years later he acquired a stately townhouse in Manhattan. In Miami, Gianni hosted hedonistic weekends for his celebrity friends Elton John, Sting, and Naomi Campbell; Madonna would stay in a suite that Gianni did up in red and gold just for her.

But his family remained the centerpiece of his life, in particular Dona-

tella's daughter, Allegra, whom Gianni referred to as his "little princess." He had great ambitions for her, even telling reporters that someday he wanted her to run the company.

Throughout the late '80s and early '90s, the company opened stores in the world's capitals. Versace presented his haute couture collection at rowdy, celebrity-filled shows at the Hôtel Ritz in Paris. With the help of Donatella, who oversaw the brand's image, Versace became the house of glam: its shows and ads starred fashion's supermodels Naomi Campbell, Claudia Schiffer, and



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products of old had Thioglycolate or *Thio* in order to re-align the sulfur bonds of the hair so you can change its shape. The next generation of products also had formaldehyde to make it stick. We are now faced with a compromise. If we ditch the Thio and formaldehyde, we lose the most toxic stuff, but do we get the same results? I say, we may lose some of the performance, but we gain peace of mind and the health of the hair has never looked better. Word of warning however, due to the lack of forceful chemicals, the process now takes 5 times longer and is 5 times more costly. Worth it? You let me know!

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Art in Versace villa on Lake Como

Linda Evangelista, and its highest-profile client was Princess Diana.

"Even if it took me 20 years," Gianni said, "I've got to where I wanted to go." In 1993, however, he was diagnosed with a rare cancer in the left inner ear. Before Gianni's illness, Donatella handled fashion details, such as the models' look, the music, and the famous front row of celebrities for shows. But during Gianni's two years of treatments, Donatella oversaw the design team.

When Gianni returned to work, Donatella balked; she loved the power she wielded in the studio and admitted "it was hard to give up." Their fights, in their local Calabrian dialect, were epic, according to witnesses. At one point, the pair didn't speak to each other for several months. In the spring of 1997, friends say Gianni exploded. "Enough!" he shouted at Donatella. "I have decided that we will do things differently. I don't want to do this anymore."

In fact, what Gianni wanted to do was get Versace out of his family's hands and list it on the stock market. By mid-1997, analysts valued the company at \$1 billion, putting it alongside megabrands Giorgio Armani and Ralph Lauren. After Paris couture week in July, Gianni flew to New York to meet Morgan Stanley bankers to plan the IPO. Afterward he reportedly scribbled on the margin of the contract: "It has been fun. It will be even more fun. We'll see you in the fall to set the issue price."

Five days later he went out for his morning walk along South Beach. When he returned to Casa Casuarina, a 27-year-old named Andrew Cunanan walked up and shot Gianni on his front steps. A nationwide manhunt ensued and eight days later, Cunanan was found dead on a houseboat in Miami; investigators concluded he committed suicide with the same gun used to

shoot Versace.

In his will, Gianni stipulated that Donatella's daughter, Allegra, who was 11 at the time, would inherit 50 percent of the company; Santo would get 30 percent, and Donatella the remaining 20 percent. Since Allegra was a minor, Donatella and Santo ran the show.

Almost immediately, Donatella began to dismantle all that Gianni had built. Many of Gianni's longtime employees left the company, replaced by young assistants. Donatella sacked legendary fashion photographer Richard Avedon, who had shot the Versace campaigns since the company was launched in 1978, and hired fashion darling Steven Meisel.

And she changed the Versace design voice. For men, it went from sleek, well-cut suits to a more casual silhouette; for women, Gianni's signature sexy chic in bold tones gave way to something far more conservative and girlish, in a pastel palette.

During a 1999 interview with Newsweek, Donatella sat on an overstuffed couch in her late brother's living room in Milan, reflecting on how she'd assumed the helm since his death.

"I know who the Versace woman is," Donatella said at the time, "because I wear the clothes myself." She insisted she was running the business "as Gianni would have wanted it," yet she was simultaneously unapologetic for imposing her own creative vision. "I had two choices," she said. "One was to take the work of Gianni and update it. The second was to take the collections further." Clearly, Donatella chose the latter.

The creative shift confused and alienated retailers and consumers alike. Longtime Versace customers turned to Gucci (designed by Tom Ford) for menswear, and Dolce & Gabbana and Roberto Cavalli for sexed-up womenswear.

To make matters worse, by her own account, Donatella's use of cocaine escalated from social partying to a full-blown addiction. She became increasingly short-tempered, blowing up at assistants and demanding costly last-minute changes. Her employees feared her and avoided her whenever possible. "You were frequently getting the ugly monster and didn't want to go near it," recalls one.

After Gianni's death, the Versaces were hit with a monumental inheritance-tax bill. To pay it, they received a five-year, \$100 million bond issued by Morgan Stanley. But the over-the-top parties and extravagant vacations continued. "There was zero expense control in the company, and the lifestyle was absolutely, positively insane," says the Versace source. "When the earnings went down, the lifestyle didn't."

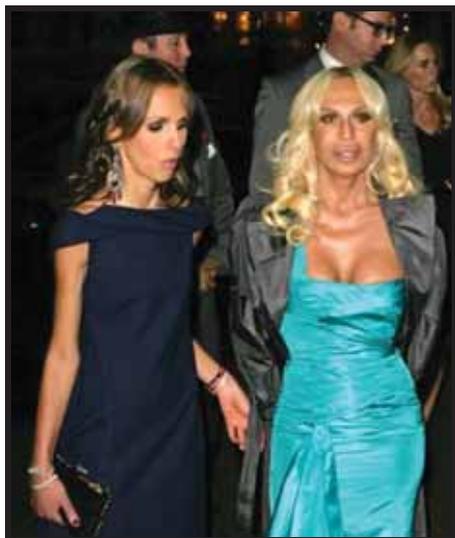
By 2000, to raise capital, they were forced to sell off most of Gianni's prized assets, including his Miami mansion. After the company posted losses of \$7.1 million in 2002, Donatella and Santo hired Fabio Massimo Cacciatori, an outside management consultant, as CEO to turn the company around.



**Allegra Versace**

"It started out as a lovefest," recalls the former Versace executive. "But soon it became torturous. Cacciatori rubbed people the wrong way. He wasn't interested in learning how or why things were done. He just said, 'The way you are doing this is wrong.'" Within a few months of Cacciatori's arrival, the source says, "there was a blowup, and in one day he said goodbye."

Following Cacciatori's departure, Santo was encouraged to step aside, and, in December 2003, Versace's CFO Daniele Ballestrazzi was named the company's interim CEO. But Ballestrazzi spent a great deal of energy combating Donatella, who, because of her drug addiction, was becoming increasingly irrational. By then, she's said, she was regularly using cocaine and an array of sedatives, including Halcion,



**Allegra and Donatella Versace**

Valium, Ativan, and Rohypnol.

"When you use cocaine every day, your brain doesn't work anymore," Donatella told *Vogue* in 2005. "I was crying, laughing, crying, sleeping—I couldn't understand when I was talking; people couldn't understand me ... I was aggressive; my voice was always high. I was scaring [my family] to death; my children were petrified of me."

On June 30, 2004—Allegra's 18th birthday—longtime friend Elton John staged an intervention. Friends and family gathered in Milan for what was supposed to be a birthday dinner, and instead put Donatella on a plane to a rehab center in Arizona. (Last week a Versace spokeswoman dismissed Donatella's history of drug addiction as "extremely old news.")

The change in the way the company was run upon her return was dramatic and swift. Within weeks, Versace had a new CEO, Giancarlo di Rasio. His plan included cutting costs and selling assets. "Di Rasio didn't do anything brilliant," says the former Versace executive. "He did all the things that had been talked about for years, but suddenly Donatella was sober and stopped fighting it."

By then, however, the damage had been done. In the decade following Gianni's murder, dozens of family houses like Versace had been listed on the stock market or sold to corporate conglomerates, which turned them into well-run global brands. In 18 months, di Rasio returned Versace to profitability, but the overall state of the business was still weak.

In 2007, Versace did approximately \$400 million in sales—less than half of what it was doing when Gianni was killed a decade earlier. "Their numbers were better," says the Versace executive. "But in a time when everyone else was making extraordinary profits, Versace should have been the biggest of the luxury booms, not the smallest."

And even as Donatella successfully

overcame her drug addiction, the family faced new challenges: in 2007 Donatella and Paul Beck issued a statement saying that "our daughter, Allegra, has been battling anorexia, a very serious disease, for many years." Now 23, Allegra is reportedly doing well, but it remains uncertain whether she'll ever fulfill her uncle's wish that she someday run the company. (Versace's spokesperson calls Allegra's health "private matters.")

Most importantly, Versace lost its creative voice. All the zigzagging—the opening and closing of lines, the switching focus from expensive to cheap to expensive again—left consumers confounded.

"When you think of Versace, you don't think of a total collection offering," says Julian, the brand consultant. "You think of gowns and accessories for women and suits and ties for men. You don't even think of them for footwear and certainly not sportswear. Versace as a brand doesn't allow the consumer to just wander in and see what they have to offer."

When global stock markets collapsed last year, consumer spending dropped dramatically, impacting the entire fashion industry, Versace included. Last

year the Versaces sold the Lake Como estate; Donatella was said by friends to be heartbroken.

In early 2009, sources say, di Rasio began to meddle in the creative side of the business to try to bump up sales. That apparently was more than Donatella could bear, and within days of the rumors of a rift between the two, he was out. In mid-June, the company announced that Gian Giacomo Ferraris, CEO of Jil Sander, would be taking over, and the Board approved Bain's turnaround plan.

Will it be enough? All agree that the Versace name still has value, even if consumers no longer know what it stands for. Many in the fashion industry believe it's time for the brand to continue without Versace family involvement—and some suggest that the family is starting to accept this idea too.

Last year, Santo was elected to the Italian Parliament. Allegra has been attending Brown University and has said her dream is to become an actress. And will Donatella remain at the helm? "Maybe," says the former Versace executive. "Then again, maybe not." Which, after a decade of turmoil, may be the best thing for the company after all.



## Style



Yelo in Manhattan offers the YeloNap, a 20- to 40-minute rest on a zero-gravity chair in a private room.

## For healthy skin, get some sleep

The best skin-care treatment may be a good night's sleep — and moisturizer. Spas are adding programs to promote rest.

BY ALEXANDRA DROSU  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's a universal truth: When you're in your 20s, you can stay out all night and look fresh the next morning. Unfortunately, as we age, lack of sleep affects us more deeply and shows more prominently on our faces — lackluster complexions, dark circles, fine lines and, in more extreme cases, rashes and eczema.

Progressive loss of cellular water may be one reason sleepless nights affect our skin more visibly as we age, says board-certified dermatologist Dr. Howard Murad. Water retention is key to keeping skin moisturized and supple, which can translate to fewer lines and a smoother complexion.

Beverly Hills dermatologist Dr. Harold Lancer agrees. "During hours of sleep, cortisol and insulin production inversely peak so that collagen 1 production is accelerated," he says. Collagen 1 production firms the epidermal/dermal junction so evaporation is reduced and water retention is maximized, he adds.

Conversely, lack of restful sleep suppresses the immune system, which can lead to skin-related problems, such as rashes. "The most important thing you can do for your skin may be getting a great night's sleep," Murad says. The ideal amount ranges from six to eight hours of uninterrupted sleep, time enough to move through the five phases of sleep.

As the body settles into the fourth and deepest stage of rest — often called Delta Sleep (which precedes REM, the last stage of sleep) — growth hormones peak and initiate cell and tissue repair. Limited or restless sleep can cut into this crucial restorative process. "Intermittent waking sleep is nowhere near as beneficial to skin health," Lancer says.

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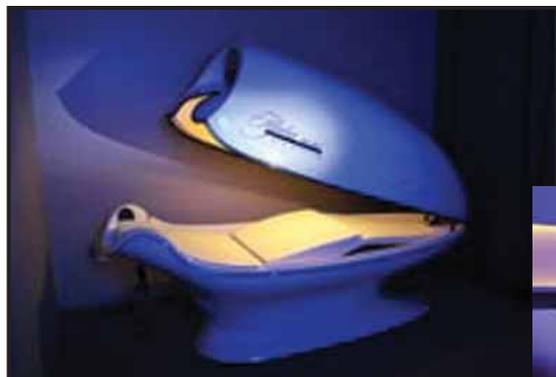
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Restful sleep

Increasingly, experts are looking at beauty holistically: When skin benefits from enough sleep, products and treatments work more effectively to provide better results. "You cannot treat the skin as an isolated organ, you treat the whole person," Murad says.

He uses this analogy: Imagine your window frame needs to be replaced. You can just replace the frame or you can find out what damaged it in the first place, say termites or bad plumbing. Similarly, when the skin looks gray and sallow and you have dark circles around your eyes, you can use cold compresses and makeup as a temporary fix or address the underlying issues, such as sleep deprivation.

In a SpaFinder consumer study, 80% of respondents said they had difficulty sleeping "frequently" or "sometimes." Those with mild sleep issues can now visit spas that offer sleep therapy treatments alongside facials and massages.

"Today there are many sleep health programs at getaway spas, and we are now seeing day spas incorporating the benefits of sleep as well," says SpaFinder President Susie Ellis. Destination spas such as Red Mountain Spa in Utah and Canyon Ranch in Arizona offer sleep skills workshops and insomnia relief programs.

Some smaller day spas offer an injection of relaxation during a busy schedule: Yelo in Manhattan features the YeloNap, where, for \$15 to \$28, clients sleep for 20 to 40 minutes on a zero-gravity chair in a private cabin; LED lights simulate a sunrise for a gentle wake-up call.

However, achieving uninterrupted sleep and maximizing the beauty potential of our sleep are two separate notions. According to experts, several tricks can help you look your best in the morning.

Avoid eating heavy or salty meals that are hard to digest before bedtime, and remember that hydrating your skin from the inside is just as important as using a topical moisturizer. Murad also recommends oral supplements such as Omega-3 to help maintain a healthy hydration level.

Instead of over-the-counter sleeping pills, oral supplements can help relax muscles and relieve tension while attempting to improve skin holistically. Murad's Sleep Reform Dietary Supplement attempts to tackle both beauty and sleep in one pill. It

incorporates muscle relaxant GABA to ease tension, melatonin to promote deep sleep, antioxidant Coenzyme Q10 and B vitamins to boost collagen production.

Last, don't indulge in another youthful bad habit — falling asleep in your makeup. Pay attention to your nighttime skin-care routine, even if you're tired, because night creams and serums help rejuvenate skin overnight. "Nighttime applications of high-grade skin products perform better," Lancer says.

# Pets

## Tucker, an island Yorkie and world traveler



BY CISSY SUMNER  
COLUMNIST

Five-and-a-half-year-old Tucker, a true island dog, was named after the

island of Nantucket.

He was adopted in Feb. 2005 by Kai Martin, sight unseen, and he has been on a whirlwind ever since.

His permanent home is in 32963,

but in his short life he has lived on a sailboat, in Marco Island, the Gold Coast of Australia, the island of Bali and just summered on Cape Cod — all islands of one sort or another. Yes, Tucker holds a passport and has circumnavigated the world with Martin.

Being a true terrier, as in terra firma, Tucker loves land and although he enjoys boats and sailing, he isn't very fond of the water or swimming — and hates baths. However a walk along a beach at the waters edge is fine.

Tucker is well behaved, as you would expect from a dog who has spent up to 14 hours on a plane under the seat. Unlike most Yorkies, he rarely barks. He only does so at loud, unexpected noises at night, which makes him a good little watch dog.

While living down under, Tucker enjoyed chasing water dragons into the intercoastal and was amazed by the kangaroos. In Bali, he looked forward to his daily walk past a local temple, where he knew there would be squir-

rels to chase that would be snacking on the daily "offerings."

Now back in Vero Beach, he enjoys chasing "dragons" (lizards), in his fenced back yard.

Tucker has never met another animal, person or child that he doesn't think was put on this earth for his enjoyment, and big or small, will shower them with kisses.

His favorite pastimes are his daily walks and playing with a sock toy. He loves his belly rubs from friends and strangers alike.

He is a true lapdog and his nickname is "velcro dog" as he doesn't like being far from Martin, ever.

He has truly brought joy and companionship into the life of one lucky gal!

*Cissy Sumner, CPDT-KA*

[www.bestbehavioraltraining.org](http://www.bestbehavioraltraining.org)

Do you have an island pet? Email me with details and your pet could appear in this column!

### YOUR PET'S HEALTH

By Dr. Randy Divine and Associates



**Q. My pet never gets sick. Does he still need to see the doctor every year?**

**A.** Wellness exams are increasingly neglected in this recession. The reality is that annual or bi-annual wellness exams are the most important part of keeping pets healthy and allowing them to live long, full lives. Wellness exams help to identify subtle changes in your pets behavior or physical condition and can lead to early detection of sometimes life-threatening conditions. Identifying and treating problems earlier leads to pets living longer and often saves owners money by treating problems before they require hospitalization and extensive therapy.

Knowing what happens in a wellness exam is essential to understanding the importance. First, your pet is weighed. Tracking weight loss or gains is essential to identifying potential endocrine diseases and ensuring that pets stay in their target weight range. You are asked a series of questions about your pets diet, behavior, general health, travel history, symptoms, and problems. Getting a thorough medical history is essential. Your pets vitals (heart rate, temperature, pulse, respiratory rate, and blood pressure) are taken before his/her physical.

At Divine Animal Hospital, we offer 45 minutes minimum appointment slots rather than just a few minutes. Each doctor performs a complete physical exam including auscultation of the heart and lungs and a screening ECG to identify cardiovascular abnormalities. Pets eyes are examined with an ophthalmoscope allowing doctors to look at the fundus (part of the eye including the retina). This can lead to early detection of retinal problems that can lead to blindness. The patient's mouth is opened to look at the color of the mucous membranes (an indicator of circulation and tissue perfusion), the teeth, and to look for foreign bodies like sticks, oral tumors, or ulcers. The ears examined with a Welch-Allyn digital otoscope that allows owners to see the ear canal and ear drums with the doctor, and vaginoscopy is performed in females. The abdomen is palpated to assess the size and shape of organs and determine potential abdominal masses. The skin and coat are examined to look for evidence of hair loss, wounds, parasites, growths, enlarged lymph nodes, or infections. An orthopedic exam is performed to look for arthritis, injuries, or potential disc disease—joints are flexed and extended, the back is palpated, and reflexes are tested.

As part of annual exams, vaccinations are given and fecal exams are performed to screen for parasites. Dogs are tested for heartworm disease and new feline patients are tested for Feline Leukemia. Clients are educated about parasite prevention, nutrition, and therapeutic and diagnostic recommendations.

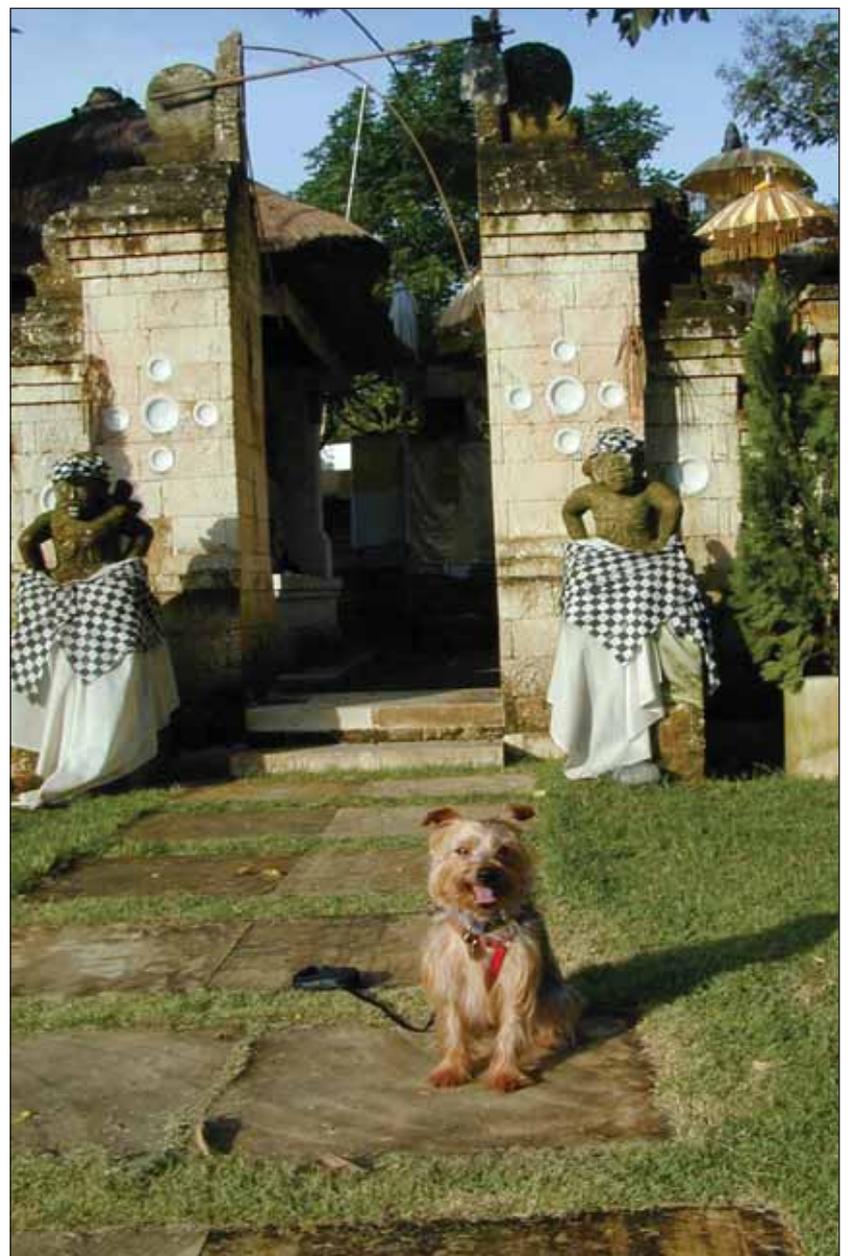


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# Learning when — and how — to compromise



BY REV. DRs. CASEY AND BOB BAGGOTT  
COLUMNISTS

these three from the fiery furnace was not the point of the story. Rather, the point of the story is that they knew they might *not* be rescued and it did not matter. They would have stood up for what they believed anyway.”

Do you have any beliefs so central to your nature, your character, your heart, that you would be willing to risk anything for them? If you were to ask us that question, we would answer that our bedrock, rock-solid, core beliefs could be boiled down to a simple few. But these few are so essential

to us, that yes, we would do or say most anything necessary in support of those things. And perhaps you see your most critical ideas and convictions similarly.

The fine art of compromise is essential to human well-being and the peaceful coexistence of different cultures, different societies, different people. We must learn when and how to compromise. But, for those rare and critical issues and beliefs that must not be compromised under any circumstances, we take to heart the

example of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Are there beliefs you simply cannot violate, or convictions you cannot deny? Then, like faithful folks from generations past, may you cling to them, and never count the cost!

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

Do you hold any convictions which you are utterly unwilling to compromise? Are there any beliefs or understandings you've adopted that you consider non-negotiable, unalterable, and unchangeable? Most of us have some.

In fact, we think that some of the best stories and Hollywood movies are depictions of people who did, in fact, stand up for their uncompromising principles, against all odds. Of course, taking a stand can be costly. It can alienate other people, or even endanger our lives. But if we can see no other path of integrity, we may be willing to take such a stand, even so. Do you have any convictions significant enough to you, that you would risk almost anything for them?

A fascinating little Biblical story exists about a group of folks, faithful to the God of Israel, who were asked to deny their beliefs in the most compromising way imaginable for an Israelite. They were asked to bow in worship before a golden statue erected in Babylon, where they were being held in captivity by a ruthless king. They refused. Their allegiance to their God demanded their total loyalty. Even on pain of death, they would not worship a golden idol. And so the Israelites named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown by the angry king into a fiery furnace, as their punishment. But to the great surprise of the king, they were not harmed by the fire.

Now, the great temptation in reading this little story (and indeed, in seeing some Hollywood epics in which the brave and loyal are lavishly compensated) is to conclude that virtue is always instantly rewarded. But, as one of our colleagues has noted: “Sometimes doing the right thing in life does not guarantee that God’s cavalry will be stationed just over the hill, ready to charge forward and take up battle with you on your side. The rescue of

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## Dining

## Restaurant Review

## Dockside Grille: Not quite the same

BY TINA RONDEAU  
COLUMNIST

While the Dockside Grille on Royal Palm Pointe last season seemed like an almost interchangeable option to Bobby McCarthy's beachside restaurant, several recent visits have persuaded us that the Dockside – while still featuring a similar menu – no longer is up to Bobby's standards.

Sure, on any given night, some of the dishes are still good – particularly if you stick with the juicy burgers and the tasty flatbreads. But when you move into the steaks and seafood, it becomes more hit and miss.

On one recent visit, for example, my husband ordered the 16-ounce New York strip – which at \$30 with an au poivre sauce, is among the pricier Dockside offerings. Despite the sauce, the steak was not very flavorful and was quite chewy, not at all what we would have expected. And when almost half of it finally was taken away, there was no hand-wringing or apology from management.



Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

On another visit, two of the catches of the day – the blackened wahoo (\$27) and the blackened salmon (\$25) – were spicy and tasty, but clearly had been overcooked and were quite dry (the wahoo more than the salmon).

All this will come as disappointing news to many beachside diners,

who continued to cross the bridge to the Dockside long after Bobby parted company with co-owner Jerry Maher and retreated to his Ocean Drive restaurant.

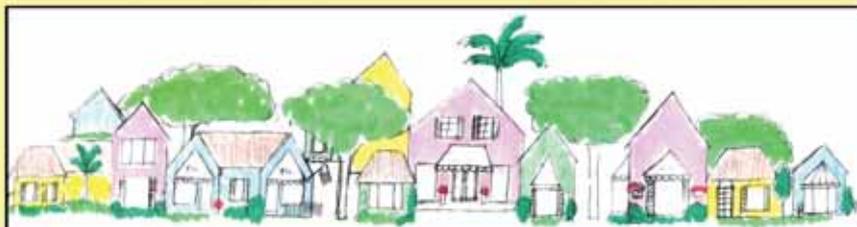
Interestingly, the slippage in food quality to this point doesn't seem to have greatly impacted business at Dockside. One factor may be the Hap-

business with entertainment. On a recent visit, we heard the familiar sound of a guitar, and realized that the entertainer was Frankie Holiday, who used to serenade customer's night-after-night at the old P.V. Martin's on south A1A.

On this evening, one of those highlights you can never anticipate saw Holiday joined by baritone Roman Ortega Cowan, who briefly left the table at which he was dining to raise his magnificent voice in song.

No review of Dockside would be complete without special mention of the burgers. Virtually identical to those found at Bobby's, they continue to rank right up there as among the juiciest and tastiest found anywhere in our town.

The Dockside Grille is split into two rooms -- the bar area, where booths surround the large central bar, and a dining room, where tables look out on the canal to the south side of the restaurant. There also is a small but very attractive outdoor dining area overlooking the canal for evenings that are not too sultry.



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py Hour specials – both food and drink – which enable you to both imbibe and sample appetizers at a very reasonable price before the dinner hour.

While those specials were originally instituted as a way of boosting business during the quiet summer months, we are told the Dockside now plans to continue offering these – with appetizers like a plate of lightly breaded fried calamari served with a tasty marinara sauce priced as low as \$5 – indefinitely.

*(You may want to pay more attention than we did to your check. On our most recent visit, when we got home, we discovered we had been charged the regular price for drinks -- not the Happy Hour price.)*

The Dockside also is trying to boost

For burgers and flatbread, or for Happy Hour drinks and appetizers, Dockside still is an excellent choice. But if you are looking for first-rate steaks and seafood, you can do better for this kind of money.

I welcome your comments, and encourage you to send feedback to me at [tina@verobeach32963.com](mailto:tina@verobeach32963.com).

*The reviewer is a beachside resident who dines anonymously at restaurants at the expense of Vero Beach 32963.*

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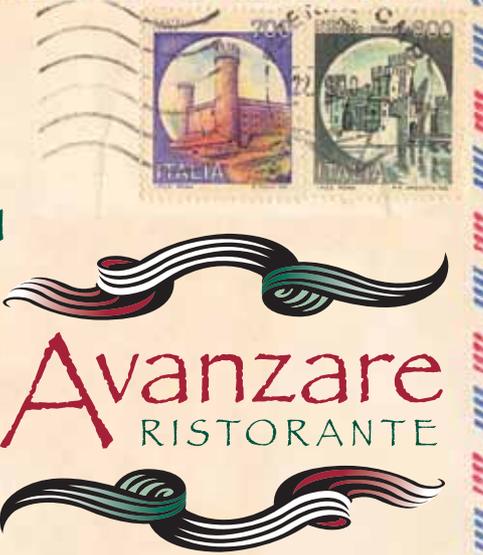
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## Food

# Chef Joe Faria: The kitchen is his sanctuary

BY MICHELLE GENZ  
STAFF WRITER

When Chef Joe Faria made his 60 gallons of soup in the kitchen of Quail Valley River Club, his contribution to last week's annual Soup Bowl fundraiser for the homeless, he drew on childhood memories of his own home.

Faria, raised in a dirt-floor stone-and-mortar house in a tiny village in

the Azores, has conserved in his recollections like a rich confit the particular culinary traditions of the isolated Portuguese islands, a thousand miles from Lisbon and 2500 miles from the U.S. There, his mother cooked on a wood-fired oven built into the two-foot-thick walls built by his own grandfather.

"The oven stuck out, like a pregnant house," he says. From the smokestack,

running from the front of the oven to the outside, hung the family's homemade sausages. And on top, on the small stovetop, sardines crackled in hot oil for the midday meal, and a pot of soup was always simmering to one side.

The family had a bit of land to cultivate, but his father's main work, processing sugar beets, was in a neighboring village, where he would go on

Monday morning, not to return until Friday afternoon.

That left his mother, who now lives in Sebastian with Faria's brother, to cook for and tend to the five children.

Faria says his favorite soup was a Portuguese classic called, mysteriously, stone soup. It was made of kidney beans and white beans, cabbage, hard chorizo sausage and a whole chicken

CONTINUED ON PAGE 66

# Food

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 65

that his mother would pull apart and serve along with the soup.

On the Wednesday morning, the day before the community-wide Soup Bowl event was to take place, pulled chicken meat filled tidy containers in the stainless steel walk-in cooler in the state-of-the-art Quail Valley kitchen. Homemade stock from the carcasses filled white plastic buckets. Diced onions and celery stayed fresh in a bath of icy water, prior to being added to the giant stock pots for the final simmer. It was an American classic, chicken noodle soup, that Faria was preparing in such enormous quantities. And the fact that he didn't flinch at making twice what he has made in previous year speaks to his generosity.



Samuel Bristol lends a hand to Shotsi LaJoie and Kristin Ashcroft loading 5 gallon buckets of soup into the cars that will deliver the meals to their Soup Bowl locations.

When Joe Faria was 9, the world suddenly expanded beyond the shores of his island home. His father, seeking a better life, and freedom for his sons from conscription in an army fighting in Mozambique and South Africa, decided to move the family to America.

They settled in Cambridge, Mass., a mile and a half from the Harvard campus. His father and older brother found jobs in local restaurants, and Joe followed three years later, when, at the age of 12, he went to work in the kitchen of a Japanese restaurant.

"My cousin was working there as a prep cook," he recalls. "After school, I'm washing dishes and I'm bringing home \$50 a week. The job wasn't legal – I was too young, but the money sure was," he says with a laugh.

By the time he was old enough to get a legitimate job in junior high school, his father and brother were working at a downtown restaurant and nightclub. Joe hesitated, opting instead to take a job in construction – Portuguese immigrants typically worked in restaurants or as carpenters, he says. His

first task was to hang vinyl siding on a three-story house.

"I gave it a try for a week," he says. "Manning the saw to cut the siding was fine. But then they would put it on a rope and send it up three stories. I had to go up to the third floor and



Joe Faria, executive chef at Quail Valley Golf Club, prepares chicken noodle soup. Faria prepared 45 gallons of soup for St. Edward's and St. Helen's.

walk on a plank, holding my hands to the gutter. My buddy knew I was afraid of heights and he started jumping up and down to make the plank bounce. I saw a window to the kitchen, and I opened the window and climbed in there so fast, and I never went back."

The kitchen would become his sanctuary forever.

Entirely self-taught, but for a few business classes, Faria went to work in the kitchen at Boston's legendary Ritz Carlton hotel, his first step in a long career with the prestigious chain. There he learned every step of the restaurant process, from purchasing to receiving to dropping off the food to the various stations in a kitchen that had 65 cooks on staff.

Eventually he began working with food himself. From the start, he absorbed the lessons from his associates. "My colleagues were doing fantastic presentations. They would teach me to develop my palate. They were taking 20 gallons of stock and reducing it to one gallon and having me taste the density and the concentrated flavors. I may have been stuck peeling potatoes but I was watching the whole time."

The work suited him perfectly. "I like structure with creativity," he says. "A lot of people have creativity but no structure, and for me, you're losing your roots there."

You've got to know the history, why things are done a certain way. Today, even the culinary schools are not teaching the roots. They're so engrained that they want to be chefs that they forget how to be a cook."

From Boston, Faria was moved to properties in Washington DC, Atlanta, Cleveland and Palm Springs, working in the kitchens of celebrated chefs in an atmosphere of scrupulous professionalism.

By 1994, Faria had left Ritz Carlton

and was working in Clearwater at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa when a friend in the business called and said a club in Vero Beach was looking for an executive chef with Ritz Carlton background. The club turned out to be Windsor, and Faria came over for an interview. But by the time he got the offer, Windsor's developer, Galen Weston had just acquired Orchid Island, and placed Faria there. Six years later, he finally transferred to Windsor, his original hope, and worked there until 2003, when Quail Valley opened.

There he has inaugurated a number of special events for members, including a ladies' night wine dinner, and a new steakhouse-themed menu featuring his own "A-1-A" sauce. In October, he staged a Portuguese-themed dinner for the Space Coast chapter of the Chaine des Rotisseurs, the gastronomic society.

This was his fifth year contributing to the Soup Bowl, which benefits the Samaritan Center for Homeless Families.

In typical Chef Faria fashion, he did not flinch when asked to double up on the chicken noodle soup he always makes for St. Helen School, where his three daughters attend (he also has a son Brigham, 18, who lives near Dallas). He was happy to oblige nearby St. Edward's School, where many of his Quail Valley clients' kids attend, with another 30 gallons when they also wanted to serve his soup.

While the recipients no doubt appreciated his generosity, three in particular remained ever the critics: Meghan, Olivia and Maya Faria. At ages 9, 7, and 5, respectively, their palates prefer a soup produced in far larger quantities that even his 60 gallons.

"I hate to say it," says Faria. "But they think Campbell's soup is better than mine."

A promotional graphic for Rock City Gardens. It features a large, vibrant purple lotus flower in full bloom, centered against a dark background. The text "Rock City Gardens" is written in a stylized, green font across the bottom of the flower. Surrounding the logo are several service offerings: "Landscape Design &amp; Installation", "Containerscaping", "Events", "Retail Garden Boutique", and "Plant Care &amp; Rentals". At the bottom, the address "9080 US HWY 1 | Wabasso, FL | 772-589-5835 | rockcitygardens.com" is provided.

# Beachside girls become State Champs at VBHS

BY MICHAEL BIELECKI  
CORRESPONDENT

The Vero Beach High School girls lacrosse team, four-time state champs, this year are relying on the play of seven beachside girls, including senior midfielder Krista Grabher and junior center Courtney Swan.

Coach Shannon Dean recognizes the integration of these girls into his team as a natural occurrence.

"A lot of these girls do live on the beach and they attend school here . . . and some have transferred," said Dean. "There is a portion of the team that did go to school at St. Ed's through fifth grade and then come over here to the main land for the rest of school. Our girls and the St. Ed's girls grew up with each other. Some of them have attended our camps, and some have been part of the club team."

Grabher and Swan join senior midfielder Jennifer Leffew as returning All-Americans, with senior goalie Christine Overholt garnering an honorable mention selection. In Dean's words, "That ain't bad."

Mainlanders Leffew and Overholt give credit to their teammates from across the bridge for being important pieces to their championship puzzle. "They really gel with our team," said Leffew. "Every practice we have fun, and we've all become so close. Everyone knows their role on the team, and we all fit perfectly."

"We're blessed to be a part of this," adds Overholt. "Who gets to win four state championships?"

## From losing streak to state champs

A college hockey player and wrestler, Dean played pickup lacrosse in the off-season to stay in shape. Transitioning from being successful wrestling coach at VBHS, he relished the challenge of taking over a winless junior varsity girls lacrosse team mid-season in 2001.

After losing all four games he coached, Dean turned the team around in 2002 with a record of 6-4. VBHS was coming off consecutive 8-8 years when he took over as head coach for the 2003 season.

Determined to make the most of his opportunity, Dean designed the blueprint for the best girls lacrosse team in the state in one fervent weekend. "I've always been a structure person, and always had success as a coach," said Dean. "I put two wax boards up on the wall and wrote down our new phi-



Vero Beach High School senior midfielder Krista Grabher fields a short pass from junior Kalani Peirce during a drill at lacrosse practice.  
Photos: Tom McCarthy Jr.

losophy, our schedule, and the girls lacrosse rosters from Junior High on up. I went over everything we needed to be champions in four years."

Dean's hard work produced immediate results, as he guided the team to an 11-5 season and a berth in the State Quarter-Finals. The 2004 and 2005 seasons yielded impressive 18-2 records and state semi-final status. And in Dean's fourth season, his vision was realized as VBHS became state champions.

"If you build something successful people want to be a part of it," said Dean. "We have a saying here: Tradition never graduates. When the girls put the Fighting Indians' jersey on, they want that state championship ring."

## The Rivalry

In the event that Vero Beach wins a fifth consecutive state championship title in 2010, it would match St. Edward's record.

From 1996-2000, SES dominated girls' lacrosse in Florida. Their five-straight state championships are still the benchmark for Vero Beach, which is home to nine of the last 14 girls lacrosse state champions. A rivalry is an obvious byproduct from the excellence of both programs.

"St. Ed's will always be a rival," said Dean. "When I became head coach, our goal was to beat St. Ed's every year—we finally beat them in 2005. In a lot of ways, that game was our state tournament."

"There are times over the years

were in '04 and '05, because it brought some good publicity and crowded stands for girls lacrosse—a minor sport. The players, parents and institutions get pumped up for the game."

Grabher said many of the barrier island girls will never forget their roots.

"People try to build up beachside vs. mainland tension," said Grabher. "When you look at it, half of the girls on our team are beachside residents and a lot of us have gone to St. Ed's in one point in time. I'm still friends with a lot of the girls over at SES."

Friendly or not, last year's VBHS-SES game was well-attended.

"The whole bleacher section at SES filled for our game," said Swan.

The rivalry is bound to grow in 2010, due to the addition of sophomore attacker Lucy Sexton and sophomore defender Olivia Long. The two players transferred from SES after the fall of 2008, but had to sit out the 2009 season due to FSHAA rules. Classmate MacKenzie Smith, a midfielder, came

CONTINUED ON PAGE 68

where things get heated. I'd love to see our games get back to where they

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# Sports



Sophomore defender Olivia Long runs through a warm up drill with the rest of the Vero Beach High School lacrosse team.



Vero Beach High School sophomore midfielder MacKenzie Sexton looks to field a pass from senior midfielder Krista Grabher.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 67

to the mainland for school as a freshman—so transfer rules didn't apply in her case, and she played on last year's team.

"SES losing Mackenzie, Lucy, and Olivia to VBHS over the last two years will add more to the VBHS-SES rivalry," said Grabher.

Overholt concurred, calling them "impact players."

### Crossing the Bridge

In less than a year at Vero Beach, Sexton and Long have enjoyed a

smooth transition thanks in part to lacrosse.

"The school was very accommodating when Olivia and I transferred," said Sexton. "Both of my parents went here. I like the tradition that VBHS has, as well as the school spirit. In many ways public school just appealed to me."

"I loved St. Ed's, but Vero is great too. St. Ed's had a good lacrosse program, but they are state champions over here."

Long feels there were multiple reasons for her transfer as well. "Lacrosse

wasn't the reason I switched schools. The difference to me is getting a real high school experience. School-wise, the AP (advanced placement) program here is really good."

The main thing Long misses about SES is the smallness of the school and the individual instruction she received from her teachers. Always the mentor, though, Coach Dean has made her transfer an easy one. "He always has an answer to any question Lucy and I have," said Long. "He knows what's going on with us both on and off the field."

### Next level

VBHS hasn't lost an in-state game since it lost to Lake Brantley 7-6 back in 2007. The expectation every year is an FHSAA Championship. As a result, Dean knows that his program's prolonged success has created a different set of problems for him as a head coach.

"Now, we're everyone's state championship every single game in Florida," said Dean. "There are expectations to get players scholarships, and there are nationally ranked college programs watching. I can't let this team get complacent."

In an effort to challenge his team this year, Dean is attempting to schedule the toughest national competition he can find. "It said a lot when we went up to Baltimore, and played some of the best schools in all of lacrosse and beat them," said Dean. "When we get the chance to play national ranked teams, we send a message."

### A Look to the Future

The three previously mentioned seniors, Grabher, Overholt, and Leffew, are all going on to play lacrosse in college.

Grabher will be going to a University of Florida program in its second year of existence, and Overholt will be dressing warm for the cold winters at University of Vermont. Both are going on lacrosse scholarships.

Leffew, is conceding her shot to play lacrosse on a scholarship in favor of attending Harvard (Ivy League schools don't give athletic scholarships). "I can't wait to see the seasons, and I love Boston," said Leffew.

Swan doesn't have to make a college decision until next year, but according to Coach Dean, "She'll have a big selection of schools to choose from."

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# Atocha record cabinet: A modern solution for old vinyl



BY LISA BOONE  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Designed by Jennifer Levin Atocha out of necessity — she could not find a good-looking cabinet to house her vinyl records — the midcentury-inspired record cabinet will please the most obsessive of music collectors. (Think Daniel Stern’s character Shrevie in the Barry Levinson film “Diner.”)

Made to order in maple, oak, cherry and walnut, the line includes a variety of configurations that can accommodate plenty of CDs and DVDs too. Each soft-close gliding drawer can hold up to 95 albums.

Look for special deals through Nov. 8 as Atocha Design holds its first sale, reducing everything by 15%. The cabinet shown above, normally \$5,500, is now \$4,675 — enough to cover white-glove shipping from the studio in New York to Florida, about \$750. That includes installation in the home and the removal of all packing materials.



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## Real Estate

# Terra Bella: Kay Brown's next big project

BY LISA ZAHNER  
STAFF WRITER

Few realtors have sold as many high-end homes as Kay Brown in recent months. The \$10 million Terra Bella estate at Ocean Pearl is the next project for Kay and her colleague Cindy O'Dare—the perfect new house for someone who loves the classic look, charm and workmanship of an older home, without the upkeep.

The passer-by would never guess the home was brand new, but instead would wonder what grand family occupied the house and what the history might be. Equipped with all the modern conveniences and materials, the estate still retains the feel and flavor of a historic, Spanish mission-style home of the sort found in the hills of Santa Barbara. And it should, since that area of California and its architecture served as the inspiration for the 9,835-square-foot estate nestled in the private enclave of Ocean Pearl on the barrier island near Sea Colony.

Developer J. Eustace Wolfington and builder Mark McIntosh collaborated on the vision for Terra Bella. The late architect Mark Vigneault worked as part of the design team on the estate.

"They traveled all over doing research on the homes they build, to Santa Barbara for this one and for previous ones in the Villages, to Italy," said Kay Brown of Premier Estate Properties, which has the listing on the house.

The sprawling estate with guest or servant quarters over the three-car garage is built on a secluded 1.25-acre lot with a elegant entrance and



Kay Brown of Premier Estate Properties is working with Cindy O'Dare.

Photos: Tom McCarthy, Jr.

125 feet of seagrape-covered dunes and oceanfront. Gracing the rear of the home is a Mediterranean-style courtyard and pool with ocean side fire pit for enjoying moonlit nights atop hand-cut coral stone pavers. On the secluded south side is a spa with fountain, with entry through one of the six bathrooms.

With a formal dining room inside the home, a covered outdoor dining area, gourmet chef's kitchen, butler's pantry and inventory-controlled

850-bottle wine cellar, Terra Bella's potential for preparing culinary delights to entertain family and friends is limitless. The shellstone courtyard drive provides ample parking and the programmable audio system keeps the soundtrack to the party going effortlessly. With the touch of a button, the blackout draperies in the family room convert ocean view windows to a cozy home theatre in seconds.

The kitchen boasts granite countertops which highlight the beauty of

the various wood cabinets and features of the home. A double sub-zero series refrigerator-freezer designed to match the kitchen cabinets blends into the room and handy features like the Tuscan brass faucets and pot filler by the propane gas stove make cooking a breeze.

For guests who don't want to leave this estate, there are bedrooms inside the main house — two conveniently downstairs and three upstairs, including the luxurious master suite.

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# Real Estate



A view of the guest bedrooms from the geometric backyard of the Terra Bella estate.

The master suite features a comfortable bathroom with space to lounge, an enormous master closet room and a sitting room overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

Brown has shown the house dozens of times over the past two years and said the master suite sitting room is by far her favorite room in the house.

"I could just sit here for hours with a good book, the view is spectacular," she said.

A walkway made of the same rich, Ipe hardwood flooring as the rest of the house divides the master suite from the other upstairs rooms and provides a breathtaking view of the living room below. Looking up, the ceilings are made of cypress tongue and groove with cypress wood beams.

Terra Bella is equipped with an elevator, a "safe room," and a closed circuit camera, security and climate-control system which can be operated and monitored remotely via the internet. The six Trane high-efficiency air-conditioning units keep the house comfortable and stone fireplaces powered by propane gas in the living and family room and master suite can warm the hearth during the winter months.

In addition to the laundry facilities in the butler's pantry, there is space with hookups for a stackable washer and dryer upstairs in a hall closet.

Mahogany interior window and doors throughout the house and hand-made tile accents on the staircase and in the kitchen carry the mis-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 72

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# Real Estate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 71

sion-style architecture and Spanish feel throughout the home. Weather Shield hurricane impact windows and doors throughout, plus the thick walls, stucco exterior and barrel clay roof tiles form a strong exterior protecting this oceanfront estate from the elements.

The home is fully furnished, and the owner will sell with or without the furnishings.

## Terra Bella

- 281 Blue Wave Lane South, Vero Beach, 32963
- Designed in the Spanish mission style of Santa Barbara architecture
- Six bedrooms, six baths, including a guest house/servant quarters
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- 125 feet of oceanfront on 1.25 acres
- One of eight oceanfront lots in gated Ocean Pearl community
- Offered at \$10 million
- Listed by Premier Estate Properties



The beach front back yard at the Terra Bella Estate also boasts a pool.



One the upstairs guest bathrooms offers a free-standing tub with a view of the ocean.



The master suite at the Terra Bella estate opens onto a balcony that overlooks the beach.

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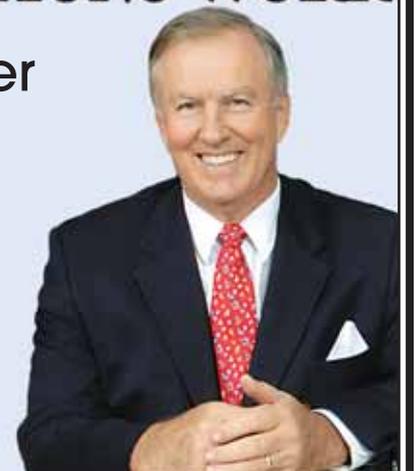
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# You may qualify for a home-buyer tax credit

## The feds have raised income limits so millions more are eligible.

BY KATHY M. KRISTOF  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Millions of additional people may be able to take advantage of the new and improved first-time home-buyer tax credit now, and it's not just for first-time home buyers anymore. You may qualify.

President Obama signed legislation last week to extend unemployment benefits to American workers. The law also includes provisions that vastly expand the number of people eligible for home-buyer credits by boosting the income eligibility limits, giving buyers more time, creating a \$6,500 credit for longtime homeowners and launching more-accommodating rules for members of the military. Here are the details.

### The \$8,000 credit

If you were locked out of the first-time home-buyer credit in the past simply because you earned too much, there's good news. Now you can qualify for the full \$8,000 first-time home-buyer credit with a single income of up to \$125,000 and married income of up to \$225,000. Those who earn more will be phased out. The credit ends completely once single income exceeds \$145,000 and married income exceeds \$245,000. Still, that's a big boost from the previous law that shut off the credit for singles earning more than \$95,000 and married couples who earned more than \$170,000.

### Other eligibility rules

- You must not have owned another home for at least the previous three years.
- You must buy a home (or have a binding contract to buy) by April 30, 2010. Under the new law, if the sale doesn't close on time, you can still get the credit as long as you've got a binding contract on the ending date, said Jackie Perlman, tax analyst with the Tax Institute at H&R Block in Kansas City.
- You must be older than 18 and not claimed as a dependent by any other taxpayer.
- The property you purchase cannot have been acquired from a relative.
- You must attach a copy of your settlement statement with your tax return to claim the credit.
- Most buyers also must continue to own this new home for at least three years. If they sell in less time, the gov-



ernment will demand that they pay the credit back, said Clint Stretch, director of tax policy with Deloitte Tax.

### Special rules for military

The government will not require repayment of the credit if you are a member of the military and had to sell or stop using the home as a residence because of extended duty, however.

In addition, those serving outside of the U.S. during any part of 2009 or early 2010 will get an additional year to claim the credit. In other words, the credit ends for most people on April 30, 2010, but it lasts until April 30, 2011, for active-duty service members working overseas.

### The \$6,500 credit

The new law carves out an additional credit for current homeowners.

If you have owned and lived in a home for at least five consecutive years of the last eight years, you could qualify for a \$6,500 tax credit, if you buy a new home between now and April 30.

The "five-of-eight" requirement means that this credit could accommodate people who lost their homes in the last year or two to foreclosure or even sold a house and didn't immediately replace it, said John W. Roth, senior tax analyst with CCH Inc., a Riverwoods, Ill., publisher of tax information.

Would you have to sell your residence for it to qualify for the \$6,500 credit, if you wanted to buy a new one? Not necessarily, Roth said. The home you purchase must become your principal residence, so you would have to move there. But nothing in the law says you cannot keep your existing residence as a second home or rental, he said.

If you do choose to sell your existing residence, you need to pay close attention to how much you earn on that sale, Stretch said. That's because taxable profits from the sale of your residence will be added to your other earnings to determine whether your adjusted gross income exceeds the allowable thresholds.

This credit also phases out for singles earning more than \$125,000 and married couples earning more than \$225,000.

On the bright side, some profits from the sale of a personal residence don't count. That's because taxpayers are allowed to exclude up to \$250,000 per person or \$500,000 per couple in profits on the sale of their personal residence from tax, if they lived in that home for two of the last five years, Stretch said. Only profits exceeding those excluded amounts would be included in income, he noted.

**Getting muddled? Let's look at an example to clarify.**

John and Sue Smith own a home that they bought for \$100,000 in 1965. They're now retired and want to scale back, selling that home, which is now worth \$750,000, and buying a smaller home with the help of the new \$6,500 credit.

Their net profit on this sale would be \$650,000, but they can exclude \$500,000 of that gain from tax, based on existing law. They will have to add the remaining \$150,000 capital gain to their adjusted gross income to determine whether they can qualify for the new credit.

If all of their other income adds up to less than \$75,000, they have no worries because the \$150,000 and \$75,000 add up to \$225,000 -- the beginning of the credit's phase-out range for married couples. If they earn more, however, they begin to lose their ability to take the credit.

There are other arcane rules relating to profits earned on the sale of a home, so those with substantial profits may want to consult a tax professional before banking on the credit.

"It's really confusing," Roth allowed. "It's as if they took the old law and threw it in a Mixmaster. Some things still apply; others don't. The time frames are all new. This is going to keep a lot of tax accountants in business for a long time."

# Calendar



## NOVEMBER

**November 10 – December 7**  
Women's Lives Art Film Studies Course at the Vero Beach Museum of Art, "Trends in International Cinema: Feminine Mystiques. 1:30 or 7 p.m. Tuesday afternoon sessions, \$55 or \$45 members. 231-0707 ext. 136

**November 11**  
Veteran's Day Celebration and Rededication Ceremony at 11 a.m. on the Veteran's Memorial Island Sanctuary at Riverside Park.

**November 12**  
The Riverside Theatre Friends committee's annual luncheon fundraiser, 11:30 a.m. at the Theatre, features International Singing Chef Andy LoRusso. Tickets \$125. 231-6990

**November 12**  
Land, Water Wildlife: Along the Greenway Trail to benefit Indian River Land Trust, 6 p.m. at Rock City Gardens presents an evening of natural wonders and wildlife under the stars. Tickets \$125. 794-0701

**November 12 - 29**  
The award winning musical Cabaret will be performed at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. 562-8300

**November 13 – 14**  
6th Annual Indian River County Firefighters' Chili Cookoff at Pointe West. Friday night International Fest-of-Ale and Fine Cuisine (21 and older) event, 5 – 9 p.m., \$25 advance, \$30 at gate. Firefighters Chili Cookoff on Saturday noon – 9 p.m. with children's play area. \$5 wristband for chili sampling. 473-6940

**November 14**  
The Alzheimer & Parkinson Association of Indian River County hosts the 6th annual Walk to Remember charity fundraiser at Riverside Park. Registration at 7:30 a.m.; walk at 8:30 a.m. 563-0505 or www.alzpark.org

**November 14**  
The Education Foundation of Indian River County Rags to Riches Party at the Moorings Club to benefit the Foundation's programs. Tickets \$100. 564-0034

**November 14**  
Oceanside Business Association's free Beach Concert Series, 5:30 – 8:30 featuring "Old Barber Bridge" to be held in front of the Holiday Inn.

**November 16**  
Guest speaker Jennifer Read Hawthorne, co-author of Chicken Soup for the women's Soul and Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul, speaks on the topic Love the Life You Live at a breakfast to benefit Indian River Impact 100, 8:30 a.m. at Oak Harbor Clubhouse to benefit Impact 100. Tickets \$20. 234-4315

**November 16**  
8th Annual Golf Tourney at the Vero Beach Country Club to benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indian River County. 7:30 a.m. pro-am start, 12:30 p.m. regular tournament start. 299-7449 or www.bgcirc.org

**November 16**  
Chocolate, Champagne & Chefs, 6 p.m. at Quail Valley River Club to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters. (772) 770-6000

**November 18**  
Author Betsy Carter presents The Puzzle King, 4 p.m. at the Vero Beach Book Center. 569-2050

**November 18**  
National Philanthropy Day Awards Presentation, hosted by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, will be held at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. 231-0707 ext. 106

**November 19**  
Book Signing Tea to benefit Alzheimer & Parkinson Association with guest speaker and author Dr. Rosemary Laird, 4 p.m. at Oak Harbor Clubhouse. \$25 pp includes copy of "Take Your Oxygen First." 532-9127

**November 19**  
Save the Chimps fund-raiser 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Vero Beach Hotel and Spa. www.SaveTheChimps.org.

**November 19 - 22**  
St. Helen Harvest Festival at Historic Dodgertown, Thursday 5 to 9:30 p.m., Friday 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday noon to 11 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 567-5457

**November 19 – December 6**  
Riverside Theatre presents, It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play, on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

**November 20**  
Tiger Lily Art Studios and Gallery will host its annual open studio, Found Fired Focused and Framed, 5 to 8 p.m. 778-3443

**November 20**  
The Twilight Saga: New Moon premier at Majestic Theatre to benefit Homeless Family Center. (772) 770-0774 or visit www.majesticvero.com

**November 20 – 21**  
Riverside Children's Theatre's annual Festival of Trees begins with the Preview Gala, 6:30 p.m. Nov. 20. Tickets \$150; \$75 for people under 35. Regular Showcase is Nov. 21 & 22 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., tickets \$7 adults, \$3 children. Family Night is 6 p.m. Nov. 21, tickets \$35 for family of four, \$10 each additional person, children under two free. 231-6990

**November 21**  
Kiwanis Vero-Treasure Coast Golf Tournament at Grand Harbor Golf Club to benefit Hibiscus Children's Center. 8 a.m. shotgun start. \$150 per person; \$500 per foursome. Call Angela Astrup 978-9313 x 313 or Al Sammartino 778-9711.

**November 21**  
Vero Beach High School Bulls-Eye Extravaganza, noon to 5 p.m. at the Indian River County Fairgrounds. \$5 ticket gets you a square on the field – if your cow "marks the spot" you win. 633-7683

**November 21 – 22**  
The 26th Annual Vero Beach Fall Boat Show, featuring boat dealers and suppliers, will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Riverside Park. Free parking and admission. 562-7922

**November 22**  
Emerson Center Special Guest Performance of Doug Wilson's ABC's Wide World of Sports Odyssey, at the Emerson Center at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. shows with a VIP Cocktail Reception at 5:30 p.m. 778-5249 or www.TheEmersonCenter.org.

**November 26**  
2nd Annual Treasure Coast Turkey Trot Against Hunger, a 5K run to benefit the Harvest Food & Outreach Center. 6:30 a.m. registration, 7:20 a.m. run at Riverside Park. \$20 in advance; \$25 day of



EXPERIENCE THE  
*inspiration*

**LIFELONG LEARNING SOCIETY FALL COURSE SCHEDULE**  
Regency Park is proud to have Florida Atlantic University's LifeLong Society present educational courses on our campus. Join us!

**Please Call FAU at 772-873-3338 to Register - Seats Fill Up Quickly!**

Date/Time	Course Title	Professor
11/8 – 12/16 (4 Wednesdays) 2:00pm – 4:00pm	"The Crooners, Divas & Groups of Vocal Jazz"	Gary Wagner
12/1- 12/8 (2 Tuesdays) 2:00pm – 4:00 pm	"Cultural Journeys – Egyptian Odyssey & Southeast Asia"	Ruth Kalish, Ph.D.
12/1 – 12/15 (3 Tuesdays) 10:00am – 12:30pm	"Healthcare: Reform, Repair or Ruin?"	Ruth Kalish, Ph.D.
12/15 Tuesday 2:00pm – 4:30pm	"Voyage of the Dammed – Steamship St. Louis"	Ruth Kalish, Ph.D.

**Location of all courses: Regency Park Senior Living Community**

910 REGENCY SQUARE, VERO BEACH, FL 32967  
PH: 772.770.1228 • TOLL FREE: 866.603.2171  
WWW.REGENCYPARKVEROBEACH.COM



# Calendar

event. 772-569-7364 or [www.trotagainsthunger.org](http://www.trotagainsthunger.org).

**November 27**

Christmas in Downtown at Downtown Friday, presented by Main Street Vero Beach and Vero Heritage, Inc. on 14th Avenue in historic downtown. Free admission. [www.mainstreetverobeach.org](http://www.mainstreetverobeach.org)

**November 28**

The Vero Beach Book Center's Holiday Open House with Santa Claus, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Children's Store. 569-2050

**November 28**

Vero Classical Ballet presents The Nutcracker at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center; performances at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 360-8577

**November 29**

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303

**DECEMBER**

**December 1**

A Holiday Stroll Downtown Dine and Design combines with a Mad Potters Tea Party and a Southeast Gallery of Photographic Art reception, beginning at 4 p.m. on 14th Avenue south of Route 60, the Cultural Council office and lobby of the Theatre Plaza Building, and the Southeast Gallery of Photographic Art on westbound Route 60. 770-4857

**December 3**

Gallery 14 will host the Vero Beach Museum of Art Contemporaries' off-site Art Around Town event, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3. 231-0707 ext. 109

**December 3**

The Emerson Center Humanities Series presents Telling' It Like It Is, with Hank Mattson, recounting the life and times of Florida cattlemen over the past 400 years. 7 p.m. lecture is complimentary. 778-5249

**December 4**

Author Rusty McClure presents Cincinnati; The Secret Plot to Save America, 5:30 p.m. at the Vero Beach Book Center. 569-2050

**December 4**

Charity Golf Tournament 11:30 a.m. at Bent Pine Golf Club to benefit the Environmental Learning Center. \$300 registration includes golf, lunch, cocktails and awards reception. 589-5050x 101

**December 5**

LoPresti Aviation Charity Breakfast & Fly In, 9 a.m. at Sebastian Airport featuring LoPresti Fury, Corkey Forno and Patty Wagstaff. 562-4757

**December 5**

Vero Beach Art Club's Art Trail, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., presents a tour of 10 artist studios. Tickets \$25 each or \$45 for two. 231-0303

**Solutions from Games Pages in November 5/09 Edition, Issue 32**

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Sudoku Page 50

Sudoku Page 51

Crossword Page 50 (PARIS)

Crossword Page 51 (PUZZLE OF THE MONTH)

**December 5**

Illusions Annual Winter Gala, 6:30 p.m. at The Moorings Club to benefit Hibiscus Children's Center. Tickets \$250. Call Angela Astrup 978-9313 x 313

**December 5**

Pioneer Christmas at the Hallstrom Farmstead, noon to 3 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy entertainment, beverages and dessert provided by the Indian River Historical Society. \$7 IRHS members, \$10 non-members; children under 12 free. 778-3435

**December 5**

Christmas parade on Ocean Drive, 5:30 p.m., sponsored by Oceanside Business Association and Vero Beach Rotary Club.

**December 9**

Gatekeepers of the Garden Dinner at McKee Botanical Garden. 794-0601

**December 9**

Author Larry Baker presents A Good Man, 7 p.m. at the Vero Beach Book Center. 569-2050

**December 11 - 12**

Mardy's Tennis & Jake's Music Fest to Benefit the Mardy Fish Foundation returns to Vero Beach December 11 & 12. December 11 features a Kids Clinic 4 - 5 p.m. at Grand Harbor Golf Club and the Jake Owen Concert at 8 p.m. at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center. December 12 begins at 12:30 p.m. with a Barbeque Luncheon, followed at 2:30 by a Tennis Exhibition. (866) 333-7623

**December 12**

Vero Beach Holiday Home Tour, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. presented by Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church to benefit Homeless Family Center, Indian River Habitat for Humanity and the Source. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 event day. 231-1661, ext. 302 or [www.verobeachholidayhometour.com](http://www.verobeachholidayhometour.com).

**December 13**

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303

**December 13**

Author Debbie Macomber presents The Perfect Christmas, 1 p.m. at the Vero Beach Book Center. 569-2050

**December 16**

Lighting up Our House of Peace Hanukah Concert, 7 p.m. at Temple Beth Shalom featuring Beth Schafer. 569-4700

**December 18 - 21**

Holidays at McKee at McKee Botanical Garden. 794-0601

**December 19 & 20**

40th annual presentation of Handel's Messiah performed by the Treasure Coast Chorale, Atlantic Classical Orchestra and world class soloists, 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. Free (772) 567-4311

**December 31**

New Year's Eve Celebration at Riverside

Theatre with food, fun and live entertainment on the Waxlax Stage and in the Orchid Lobby begins at 10:30 p.m. Tickets \$100. 231-6990

**December 31 - January 17**

Riverside Theatre presents Ella, featuring over two dozen of Fitzgerald's biggest hits, on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

**JANUARY**

**January 3**

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 76

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Immaculate ~ Architectural  
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Possible Ocean Views!  
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Florida style decorating ~ High  
ceilings ~ Plantation shutters  
Community Pool



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throughout  
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neighborhood!

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# Calendar

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 75

Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or [www.VeroBeachArtClub.org](http://www.VeroBeachArtClub.org)

## January 7

The Emerson Center Humanities Series presents Gary Mormino's Emmy-winning PBS documentary, *The Florida Dream*, a history of Florida since WWII based on his book *Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams*. 7 p.m. lecture is complimentary. 778-5249

## January 7

Atlantic Classical Orchestra presents Vaughn Williams Overture to *The Wasps*, Ravel *La Tombeau de Couperin* and Mahler *Symphony #4* (Chamber Version). 8 p.m. at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at St. Edwards School. (866) 310-7521

## January 7 - 10

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Antiques Show & Sale to benefit the Vero Beach Museum of Art. Preview Party is 5 - 8:30 p.m. Jan. 7, tickets start at \$100. Show & Sale is 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 8-12, tickets \$10. 231-0707

## January 9 - 16

Quail Valley Charities Fundraising Week. Jan. 9 - 5K Walk/Run and Kids fun-run, Jan. 10 - Gourmet Wine & Guest Chef Dinner, Jan. 13 - Duplicate Bridge Tournament & Luncheon, Jan. 14 - 16 - Tennis Tournament, Jan. 15 & 16 - Golf Tournament, Jan. 16 - Grand Gala Cocktail Buffet, Auction and Awards Night. 492-2020

## January 9

Oceanside Business Association's free beachside concert series, 5:30 - 8:30 featuring Bobby and the Blisters.

## January 11

Riverside Theatre's Distinguished Lecturer Series features Washington political insider Vernon Jordon, at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

## January 11

Bass & Birdies Golf and Fishing Tournament at the Indian River Golf Club, to benefit the Education Foundation. Participants play a full round of golf and also fish four lakes on the course. Registration \$300. 564-0034

## January 14 - 24

The comedy, *Sin, Sex and the CIA* will be performed at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. 562-8300

## January 15- 17

Art by the Sea, an exhibition and sale of artwork by members of the Vero Beach Art Club and the Vero Beach Museum of Art, held at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. Reception 5 - 8 p.m. January 15 and show 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. January 16-17 are both free and open to the public. 231-0303 or [www.VeroBeachArtClub.org](http://www.VeroBeachArtClub.org)

## January 17

Indian River Symphonic Association presents the Brevard Symphony Orches-

tra under the direction of Christopher Confessore, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church of Vero Beach. The Singin' and Swingin' themed Pops Concert features vocalist Michael Andrew. 778-1070

## January 21

ACS 125 cocktail party to benefit the American Cancer Society, 6 - 8 p.m. at Northern Trust Bank. \$125 per person. 562-2272

## January 23

The Emerson Center Speaker Series presents David Brooks, author and New York Times columnist. 778.5249 or [www.theemersoncenter.org](http://www.theemersoncenter.org)

## January 23

The 8th Annual Sporting Clays registered shoot at the Quail Creek Plantation in Okeechobee to benefit Sun-Up of Indian River. \$125 includes ammunition. 770-6626

## January 25

Bridge for Kids at Bent Pine Golf Club to benefit the Children's Home Society. 489-5601 x 261

## January 25

Top Chef Qualifying Event, 6 - 8 p.m. at Pointe West to benefit the Homeless Family Center. \$30 per person. 567-5537

## January 30

Indian River Regional Science & Engineering Fair public viewing, 12 to 1 p.m. at Gifford Middle School. 564-0034

## January 30

The Indian River Symphonic Association will present a concert by the Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra with Music Director Alexei Kornienko and Guest Conductor Robert Cole featuring pieces by Rimsky-Korsakov and Stravinsky, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church of Vero Beach. 778-1070

## January 30

Viva Las Vero IV Casino Night 6:30 p.m. at the Vero Beach Elk's Lodge to benefit Hibiscus Children's Center, Saturday. Tickets \$50. Call Angela Astrup 978-9313 x 313

## January 31

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or [www.VeroBeachArtClub.org](http://www.VeroBeachArtClub.org)

## January 31

Atlantic Classical Orchestra Chamber Music Series at the Vero Beach Museum of Art's Leonhardt Auditorium. 231-0707

## January 25

Homeless Family Center Top Chef Challenge...slice, dice and spice Qualifying Event, 6 p.m. at the Holy Cross Church Parish Hall. Top five chefs will move on to the main Top Chef Challenge on February 8th. Qualifying Event tickets are \$30 and tickets for the two-evening package are \$195. 567-2766

## FEBRUARY

### February 3

Atlantic Classical Orchestra presents Strauss *Tanzsuite*, *Sans De la Liberation de las Formas* and Beethoven *Symphony #6 "Pastoral"*. 8 p.m. at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at St. Edwards School. (866) 310-7521 or [www.acomusic.org](http://www.acomusic.org).

### February 4 - 21

Riverside Theatre presents *42nd Street*, one of Broadway's longest running musicals, on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

### February 6

Second champagne reception in the Love of Literacy Author Series, 3 to 5 p.m. at the Indian River Shores community room features Stephanie Keating, co-author with her sister Barbara Keating of *A Durable Fire* and *Blood Sisters*. 778-2223

### February 6

Tango y Tapas, is the theme for this year's annual gala fundraiser at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. Tickets \$500. 231-0707

### February 6 - 7

Gardenfest! hosted by the Garden Club of Indian River County returns to Riverside Park, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. 567-4602

### February 8

Riverside Theatre's Distinguished Lecturer Series features political analyst Karl Rove, at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on the Stark Mainstage. 231-6990

### February 9

The Indian River Symphonic Association will present a concert by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under the direction of conductor Leonard Slatkin, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church of Vero Beach. The concert includes pieces by Mennin, Barber and Brahms and features guest cellist Sol Gabetta. 778-1070

### February 11-12

Two-day seminar led by Arthur Blumenthal, Ph.D., Director Emeritus of the Cornell Fine Arts Museum instructs, *How to Look at Art* at the Vero Beach Museum of Art. 231-0707

### February 13

Fourth Annual 5K Race/Walk Love for Literacy to benefit Literacy Services of Indian River County, 8 a.m. at Pointe West. \$15 advance, \$25 day of event. 778-2223

### February 13

Inspired by Love Dinner with guest speaker Tony Campolo at the Community Church of Vero Beach to benefit Haiti Partners (formerly Beyond Borders). 539-8521 or [www.haitipartners.org](http://www.haitipartners.org).

### February 13

Rockin' Vero Beach to benefit the Children's Home Society, location TBA. 489-5601 x 261

### February 13

The Emerson Center Speaker Series

presents Bob and Lee Woodruff, co-authors of the 2007 best-selling *In an Instant* and known for their work on ABC *World News* and *Good Morning America*. 778.5249 or [www.theemersoncenter.org](http://www.theemersoncenter.org)

### February 13

Oceanside Business Association's free beach concert series, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., featuring The Robert Harris Group.

### February 14

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or [www.VeroBeachArtClub.org](http://www.VeroBeachArtClub.org).

### February 15

Vero Beach Museum of Art International Lecture Series features Dana Gioia, poet and former Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. 231-0707

### February 15

The Senior Resource Association will honor local CPA and non-profit supporter Robert Harris at their Legends Among Us ceremony, 6:30 p.m. at the Quail Valley River Club. Tickets \$150. (772) 469-2060

### February 16

The Indian River Symphonic Association will present a concert by the Philharmonia of the Nations under the direction of conductor Justus Frantz, 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church of Vero Beach. The concert includes pieces by Brahms and Mahler and features pianist Jon Nakamatsu. 778-1070

### February 19

USO Rocks America! at the Paris Air Hangar to benefit the Heritage Center and the Indian River Citrus Museum. 770-2263

### February 21

Atlantic Classical Orchestra Chamber Music Series at the Vero Beach Museum of Art's Leonhardt Auditorium. 231-0707

### February 22

Homeless Family Center Top Chef Challenge...slice, dice and spice Main Event, 6 p.m. at the Quail Valley River Club, the top chefs from the January 25th qualifying event will compete for prizes and gifts. Main Event tickets are \$175 pp and tickets for the two-evening package are \$195 pp. 567-2766

### February 25

The Emerson Center Humanities Series presents *Talking Drums*, with Myron Jackson relating the history of African drumming as it changed and spread from Africa to America. 7 p.m. lecture is complimentary. 778-5249

### February 28

The Vero Beach Art Club presents Art in the Park - Outdoor Art Exhibit & Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Humiston Park on Ocean Drive. 231-0303 or [www.VeroBeachArtClub.org](http://www.VeroBeachArtClub.org)

# Real Estate

## Featured Real Estate Sales on the Barrier Island: Oct. 29 to Nov. 4, 2009



This week's featured real estate transaction on the barrier island was of a new home in the River Club in Indian River Shores.

This elegant residence at 1321 River Club Drive, with views across the historic Jungle Trail of the Indian River Lagoon, was listed in June for \$2.5 million. The sale closed on October 30<sup>th</sup> for \$2.05 million.

The seller of the home was represented by Matilde Sorensen of Dale Sorensen Real Estate. The buyer in the transaction was represented by Christine McLaughlin of Shamrock Real Estate.

### SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES AND LOTS

SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
BERMUDA CLUB	9048 ENGLEWOOD COURT	2/21/2009	\$569,000	10/30/2009	\$430,000
CASTAWAY COVE	1112 WINDRIFTER WAY	11/25/2008	\$415,000	10/30/2009	\$370,000
MARBRISA	201 CARMEL CT N	7/13/2009	\$425,000	10/30/2009	\$410,000
MOORINGS	875 BOWLINE DR	6/4/2009	\$899,000	10/30/2009	\$800,000
RIVER OAKS ESTATES	535 HONEYSUCKLE LANE	9/1/2009	\$339,000	10/30/2009	\$315,000

### CONDOS, VILLAS AND TOWN HOUSES

SUBDIVISION	ADDRESS	LISTED	ORIGINAL ASKING PRICE	SOLD	SELLING PRICE
BAYTREE OCEAN VILLAS	8384 CALAMANDREN WY	8/13/2009	\$849,000	10/30/2009	\$805,000
SEAQUAY CONDO	4800 HIGHWAY A1A, #301	3/5/2009	\$899,900	10/30/2009	\$499,900

-Data from MLS

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### GRACIOUS OCEANFRONT LIVING



**40 BEACHSIDE DR, #202—3,810 A/C SQ. FT.**  
Exquisite 3 bedroom plus study, 4 bath residence with luxury finishes, southern exposure, and stone terrace with summer kitchen. **\$2,350,000**

### LAKE & FAIRWAY VIEWS



**281 SEABREEZE COURT—GOLF ESTATE**  
Newly constructed 4 bedroom plus study, 5.5 bath, two-story residence on estate-size home-site with picturesque views. **\$3,175,000**

### ESTUARY & SUNSET VIEWS



**909 ORCHID PT WAY—COURTYARD ESTATE**  
4 bedroom plus study, 3.5 bath residence with separate 2-story guest cabana, courtyard. Intracoastal access via kayak/canoe. **\$1,595,000**

### GRACIOUS OCEANFRONT LIVING



**70 BEACHSIDE DR, #203—2,252 A/C SQ. FT.**  
Recently remodeled 3 bedroom, 3 bath Ocean Club corner residence with expansive wraparound stone terrace. **\$1,295,000 (Furn. Avail.)**

### PRISTINE & ELEGANT



**311 WESTWIND COURT—GOLF ESTATE**  
4 bedroom plus office, 6 bath, golf residence situated on nearly 3/4 acre homesite. Exquisite details and magnificent views! **\$2,195,000**

### SPECTACULAR GOLF VIEWS



**900 ORCHID PT WAY—COURTYARD ESTATE**  
3 bedroom, 2 study, 4.5 bath courtyard estate situated on corner homesite includes separate 2 bedroom, 2 bath guest cabana. **\$1,975,000**

### ELEGANT PRESERVE ESTATE



**429 INDIES DRIVE—PRESERVE ESTATE**  
4 bedroom or 3 bedroom plus office, 4.5 bath residence enjoys a private preserve setting with an oversized pool & spa. **\$1,795,000**

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### Waterfront Fabulous

Exquisitely remodeled/5 BR/Library/Elevator  
Approx. 6000 SF, Epicurean kitchen, dock  
**\$2,245,500**



### Waterfront Masterpiece

Completely & beautifully remodeled/3 BR/3 BA  
Southern exposure, protected deep water dock  
**\$1,395,000**



### Beachside Charmer

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Completely remodeled, split plan, so cute!  
**\$379,000**



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Absolutely darling villa/Premier location  
2 BR/2.5 BA/2 car garage/private pool  
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3 BR waterfront/Charming & immaculate  
Wonderful home for you and your boat!  
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### South Passage

Waterfront/2 BR/2 BA/2 docks!  
Corner unit/first floor/impact glass  
**\$299,000**



### Southwinds

Exquisitely remodeled & an unbelievable price!  
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**\$499,000**