

"The difference between a welfare state and a totalitarian state is a matter of time." Ayn Rand

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IT LASTS ALL WEEK

Boca Raton News

75 CENTS

Leading the community to a better tomorrow

51st Year/Issue 53

Sunday, March 18, 2007

3 Sections/58 pages

INSIDE



Miss Palm Beach County 2007

Boca Raton's Sarah Pachter adds to crowns

By John Johnston
MANAGING EDITOR

In a word, Boca Raton native Sarah Pachter is irreplaceable.

A performer since age 11 at the Little Palm Theater, the recently crowned Miss Palm Beach County, however, is no stranger to pageants – or to winning.

In addition to the Miss Palm Beach County crown, she claimed the Miss Florida Keys crown in 2005, and the Miss University of Miami crown in 2006.

And it was at the University of Miami Frost School of Music where she was "classically trained" and received her musical degree in 2006.

"My voice was my instrument," says the 22-year old soprano. But it's a voice "with a large range – I can also sing alto," she said.

Not surprisingly, the daughter of Richard and Darlene Pachter comes from a musical family where brothers Ben, 20, and Ray, 17 "play in a punk rock group." And while her father was involved in the "business side of music," her "mom also played the piano and sang."

"My parents are very excited and very supportive," she says, adding that her grandmother was able to be at the Palm Beach County pageant in Palm Beach Gardens, "and it was the first time she saw me win."



(Special to the News)
Boca Raton's Sarah Pachter, standing with her parents Darlene and Richard, took home the Miss Palm Beach County 2007 crown at the pageant held at the Eissey Theater in Palm Beach Gardens on Feb. 24.

A Cantor

Pageants are "something I've always thought about," she says, and while entering didn't actually occur until she was 19, she spent much of her youth preparing for the stage in a variety of ways.

She was co-captain of the Hurricanettes dance line and vice president of Sigma Alpha Iota women's music fraternity while at the University of Miami. She is a graduate of Olympic Heights High School in Boca Raton, where she was a National Honor Society member, varsity cheerleader, singer in Soundsation (the school's show choir) and also a member of the barbershop quartet, Sweet Soundsations.

And what happens now?

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Not all area educators oppose FCAT

By Nicol Jenkins
and John Johnston

STAFF WRITER
AND MANAGING EDITOR

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is over.

You would think that many educators would breathe a sigh of relief – but many say the pressure is still on.

School administrators are counting down the days till scores are out and school grades are tallied. This year the scores come back in April and May.

Teachers are hoping students pass so bonus cash will flow, while students are still sweating out the move to a higher grade.

Despite criticism from many, there are those in Boca Raton that praise the exam for its ability to measure student achievement.

"If someone were to say the FCAT is bad, I'd say no. It's a good test," said Boca Raton Community High School principal Geoff McKee. "It prepares students for life. It gives them thinking skills, the ability to assess and interpret. They'll have to take the SAT's for college. This coaches them through the process of how to succeed on a test."

As for high anxiety due to the exam, McKee thinks that's inevitable in any kind of stress provoking situation.

And the FCAT McKee further believes "prepares students for any high stakes activity in life such as interviews, the ACT, or SAT."

"For the FCAT to be stressful is great. Kids should worry if they're doing well on the test," he said. "If they were to say let's eliminate the test, they would have to take out all tests. I don't buy that as a reason."

The Link

With FCAT's inextricable relationship to the
continued on Page 9

Earning free throw awards a slam dunk for Boca teen

By Dale M. King
CITY EDITOR

In a dimly lit gymnasium, Adam Silver of Boca Raton steps up to the free throw line.

He bounces the basketball several times. Then, he taps his feet in a quick, almost imperceptible motion.

He tosses the ball toward the hoop. Swish.

Thirteen-year-old Adam's ability has won him a number of honors and titles. Two weeks ago, the eighth grader at Donna Klein Jewish Academy in Boca Raton won the Elks Florida State Hoop Shoot Tournament at the Florida Elks Youth Camp.

Adam put his abilities on the line yesterday as Florida's representative in the South East Regional National Tournament, where he challenged the winners from South Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi. (Results were not available at press time).

A basketball player for both

DKJA and West Boca Community High School, Adam is mixing with high school teams even though he is still in middle school.

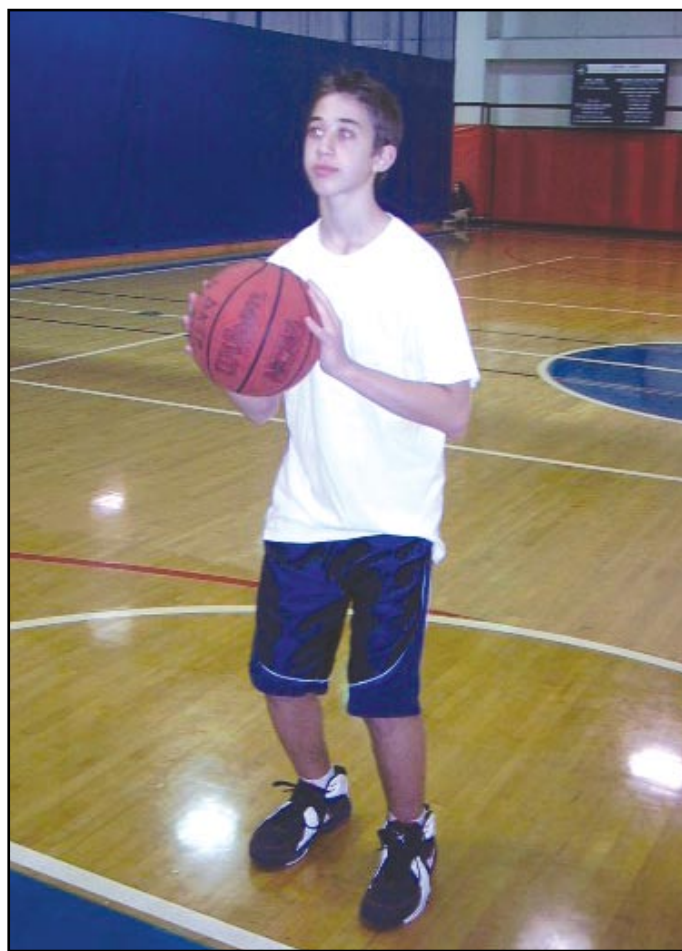
His dad, Jay, recalls challenging 8-year-old Adam to sink 70 out of 100 free throws using a driveway hoop. "He made 95 out of 100," dad recalls.

It wasn't long before he was competing in tournaments.

Adam is an all-around athlete, also playing soccer and running cross-country. He is also a straight A student at DKJA, where he has made the Honor Board and Honor Roll. He will represent his school in the Florida State Math Championship as part of its Math Team.

The Boca teen doesn't know if he'll make basketball a career. He did note that the commissioner of the National Basketball Association is also named Adam Silver. And his favorite team – of course – is the Miami Heat.

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(Dale King/Staff Photo)
Adam Silver, 13, prepares to fire off a free throw during practice for this weekend's Southeast Regional National Tournament. The Boca Raton resident and eighth grader at Donna Klein Jewish Academy represented Florida in the competition held Saturday.

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REAL ESTATE GUIDE



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Today on ...
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THE SECOND OF A THREE-PART SERIES BY SMALL BUSINESS ATTORNEY IAN BERKOWITZ ON WHAT SMALL BUSINESS NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT A VITAL MARKETING TOOL:
TRADEMARKS.

Are single gender classes in school the answer?

NEWS ANALYSIS

By Nicol Jenkins and John Johnston

STAFF WRITER AND MANAGING EDITOR

Hormones raging, clowning around in class, putting popularity before books.

Could this describe your child's middle school? Many education officials across the country and throughout Boca Raton believe so. But is the answer single gender class?

Florida Bill

Studies show all-girl and all-boy classes break the barriers of distraction and allow students to focus on learning instead of "being cool."

Research studies supporting the move to single gender classes has prompted the filing of a bill in the Florida State legislature. The proposed law recently won unanimous approval from the Senate's pre-kindergarten-through-12 education committee.

At the same time, Florida school districts can already have all-male or all-female schools and classes. Republican Senator Steve Wise from Jacksonville said his bill would prevent legal challenges that such programs shouldn't be allowed because existing state law is silent on the subject. Nationwide, the number of public schools experi-

menting with single-sex education risen rapidly since 1990 — from about five to nearly 250. And the primary reason for the number of single gender schools not growing even faster is a conflict between the 1972 Title Nine federal law, and the 2001 No Child Left Behind federal law.

The Title Nine program specifically bans gender discrimination in federally funded programs, including public schools and college sports programs, while No Child Left Behind condones (as opposed to encourages) single gender schools. New guidelines are expected soon from the U.S. Department of Education to clear up the conflict.

But even the threat of or even actual litigation hasn't stopped single-gender schools. Currently there are 33 states that have at least one public school or some classes that are gender-exclusive, according to the National Association for Single Sex Public Education (NASSPE).

New York and Ohio lead with 10 single-gender public schools each. Indiana has at least seven schools while Pennsylvania has five and perhaps two more by the end of 2007.

No Plans

Palm Beach County currently has no plans on separating the boys from the girls, according to Su-

perintendent Dr. Art Johnson. "We haven't taken a district position to allow it in all the schools," Johnson said.

However, he added, "When the principal is supportive" single-gender is allowed "not so much in the classes but in team activities."

But the district experimented with single gender classes at Odyssey Middle School in Boynton Beach a couple years back and still offers some courses.

"Anything that moves student achievement forward," Johnson said.

Will Boca schools follow?

Don Estridge High Tech Middle School in Boca Raton currently has no plans on changing to single gender classes any time soon.

However, assistant principal Michael McCurdy added, "As an administrator I'd consider doing anything research based that shows increased student achievement and that is good for the kids. With the support from the community, teachers and students, I'd consider it."

One of the main reasons is "raging hormones," according to McCurdy.

"It's the time when hormones run rampant. Among the girl culture they don't want to be labeled geeky or look academically inclined. If young girls want to show off, sometimes they'll sit quietly and

not participate as actively. Among boys I've read that single gender reduces their reasons to act out," he said. "That's something we want to break."

Segregation

On the other side of the coin, some believe separating genders will cause students to be unprepared for when they must interact with different genders in the workforce.

Boca mom Tammy Gray, who has a daughter in middle school, said she has a mixed opinion on single gender classes. She thinks some courses would benefit with all girl classes such as health class.

"To me it depends on what class. A health class would be beneficial for single gender. But in other classes like physics they may only get a one sided opinion," she said.

And in the long run?

"If you compare it to a workplace, do you want to work with all women? You have to consider the factors that make a difference. I'd have to see more research studies on what happened to those students in ten years," Gray said. "It's almost like a segregation of a different nature."

Nicol Jenkins can be reached at njenkins@bocaneews.com or 561-549-0844.

Why register and don't even think about it

By Ian Berkowitz

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Part Two of Three-Part Series

In the first installment of this series on Trademarks I defined what a Trademark was and the types of things that are able to be registered as a Trademark. Always keep in mind that, the ultimate goal for having a Trademark is to provide you, the business owner, with a specific name for your business, product or service so that the public identify you, your products or services greater than they know your competitor. For this installment I want to examine what is not considered a trademark and then begin to examine the process of registration.

Federal Trademark or Servicemark registration requires that the mark you are seeking to register must be used in connection with goods or services sold in interstate commerce. That does not require you to sell all over the U.S. in order to be granted registration. The fact that you can and might is sufficient. It is also possible to register a mark if you intend to use the mark in commerce at a later time period even though you might not be using it right now. During the registration process you will be requested to indicate if you are currently using the mark or you intend to use the mark. More importantly, when will Trademark and Servicemark registration be rejected?

Most often, certain marks seeking registration will not be granted due to their type and nature. Anything involving the name, portrait, or signature of a living person who has not given consent or the name, portrait, or signature of a deceased U.S. President, as long as the President is survived by a widow who has

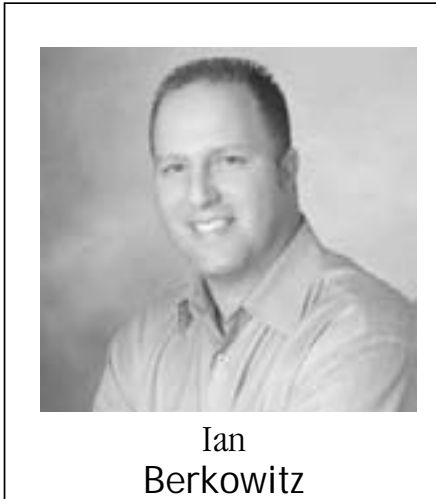
not given consent, is not eligible for trademark protection.

Material that is "immoral, deceptive or scandalous", which is highly debated in our Courts, is not eligible for trademark protection. False suggestion or disparagement of anyone, living or deceased, or with institutions, beliefs, or national symbols with the consequence of deceiving the public is not eligible for trademark protection. Finally, anything similar to a trademark already registered or used and not abandoned, if its use is likely to deceive purchasers, or cause confusion or mistake is not eligible for registration.

Let's put all of this into practice. Think about a stroll down New York's famous 5th Avenue. If you have been there in the last few years you would have seen street vendors selling products with the names of Rolex, Cartier, Louis Vuitton, Coach, Prada, Gucci and Ferragamo.

The interesting thing is that these products being sold on the New York street corners are at 80% to 90% discount. Is it a coincidence that the corporate store up the block has the same merchandise for the true price? For those that believe the products are real, I have a bridge in Brooklyn to sell you. They are certainly not real but these knockoffs are products infringing on the trademarks of these famous companies. These products are counterfeit and considered contraband and by law should be confiscated.

Now that we are aware of what can be registered let's briefly examine registration. First, why register and where do you do it for the maximum protection? The overall reason to register your mark is to create protection and ultimately give you the right to stop others in a court of law from using the mark or anything



Ian Berkowitz

similar.

Specifically, federal registration through the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office gives you a statutory remedy, the right to sue the offender in federal court and provides you the protection against registration by another for the same or any confusingly similar mark. Moreover, your registered mark becomes an asset of your business as it is part of your business intellectual property.

There is no bigger challenge or problem for you and your business to endure then having someone leverage off of your hard work and good reputation while competing against you using the names and marks that you have painstakingly created, built and continue to develop. Good business sense to register your intellectual property will save you costly litigation expenses defending it in the future. Stay tuned for the nuts and bolts of how to register and some stories on what non registration can bring.

Boca man adds \$1M to FAU scholarship fund

By Dale M. King

CITY EDITOR

Boca Raton resident Arthur D. Weiss has donated \$1 million to Florida Atlantic University to enhance the Janice and Julian Warren Weiss Memorial Endowment Fund — named for his late wife and son, an FAU alumnus, who died in 1998.

During ceremonies Thursday in the lobby of the administration building on the Boca Raton campus, FAU Board of Trustee Armand Grossman, former president of the alumni association, said the state will add \$750,000.

"I was talking to Arthur earlier, and I asked him what prompted him to make the gift. He said it was for his son and his wife. What a wonderful legacy to leave for the family," Grossman said.

The Weiss scholarship is designed to help students who, because of specific life experiences and family challenges, may otherwise be limited in attaining higher education.

To qualify, a Weiss scholar must be degree seeking and earn a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

Grossman said Weiss moved to Florida in 1938. "He trained Army pilots on the spot where we may be standing," he said. FAU was built on a former World War II Army Airfield.

In 1946, Weiss started a business that became the A.D. Weiss Lithography Co. It was soon to be the largest printing plant in South Florida. Weiss sold the company in 1971, but remained as its CEO until his

continued on Page 9

\$3 M renovation approved at Boca Greens

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Renovations at Boca Greens Country Club begin May 1.

World Famous golf course architect, Kipp Schulties, of Kipp Schulties Golf Design, has been chosen by Boca Greens Country Club to oversee the renovation of the original Joe Lee Designed Golf

Course. The club was built in 1978 and has never gone through an extensive renovation.

"Boca Greens Country Club has always been a private country club that serves our members first. We want to provide the best playing experience for our members and their guests. This renovation will

help to attract new members to Boca Greens as well as retain our current membership," explained Jess Frank, Manager of Business Development.

Kipp Schulties Golf Design with Sports Turf One, Inc. will rebuild the greens with TifEagle Grass to provide consistent and faster put-

ting surfaces, said Frank. The grass will provide better drainage and eliminate the need for overseed during the winter months, which can be stressful on both the greens and the golfer.

Other improvements to the golf

continued on Page 9

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Al Qaeda weak, but strengthening, analyst tells Boca Raton audience



(Dale King/Staff Photo)
Daniel Bergen, an author and terrorism analyst for CNN, speaks on international terrorism, Al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden as part of the Boca West Lecture Series.

By Dale M. King
CITY EDITOR

An author and terrorism analyst for CNN — and one of the few people to meet Osama bin Laden face-to-face — offered his insights into international terrorism in a speech Wednesday that was part of the Boca West Lecture series.

“Are we winning or losing? I’ll let you decide,” said Peter Bergen, who met bin Laden in a mud hut on a mountain in Afghanistan 10 years ago.

To that, a person in the audience quipped, “You found him. Why can’t we?” Bergen said it took long negotiations and an all-night Jeep ride to meet the terror leader who was surrounded by armed colleagues. Among his recollections was that bin Laden was “a religious zealot.”

Well educated

In his talk, Bergen skewered the idea that terrorists are disorganized, ill-educated people. He

said he and a colleague checked the backgrounds of 79 terrorists involved in the five most severe attacks in the past few years. “Fifty-four percent were college graduates,” he said. “That’s higher than the United States’ average of 52 percent.”

“Many held doctorates, mainly in engineering and medicine. Half of them had gone to college in the West.” He said that Mohammed Atta, leader of the 9-11 attack squad, had a doctorate in urban preservation.

He also talked of Osama bin Laden’s power. “In the five years from 1996 to 2001, he inflicted more damage than the Soviet Union did during the entire Cold War,” he said. “His 50th birthday is this year. For a young man, he has done a lot of damage.”

“Osama is one of the few people who actually changed history — and he is still out there.” From his secretive location, bin Laden called for the terror attacks on the Madrid

rail line, the London subway system and a failed attack on a Saudi oil facility in February 2006.

Terrorist training

Bergen warned of two terrorist training camps — one in western Iraq, the other on the Afghan-Pakistan border. “You’re not considered a terrorist until you’ve gone to a training camp,” he said.

The terrorism expert did offer some “good news. We haven’t been attacked in the United States [since 9-11]. The American Muslim community has rejected the ideology of terrorism. The U.S. has made the world safer, and we are more vigilant. Al Qaeda is weakened, but it is regrouping.”

Also, “there are no American sleeper cells. They are so asleep, they are dead. The attacks have only been from outside the country.”

Dale M. King can be reached at 561-549-0832 or at dking@bocaneus.com.

Local residents to see 30-40 percent property insurance rate declines

By John Johnston
MANAGING EDITOR

Palm Beach County property owners are likely to see a 30 to 40 percent average drop in insurance rates when rollbacks finally take effect later this year.

How much are you going to save?

That depends, according to the Bob Lotane.

Lotane, Communications Director for the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation, told the *Boca Raton News* that many factors go into answering that question, and not all are related to where exactly you live.

Palm Beach County includes 16 different CAT Fund Regions and multiple zip codes, Lotane said. These consist of “various discount factors depending on line of business and whether you are looking at the hurricane portion of a policy or the entire policy average discount.”

But the general bottom line, according to Lotane, is that Palm Beach County residents are

looking at a complete policy discount for a personal residential risk in a “range anywhere from 21.3 to 50 percent.”

“To average those percentages,” Lotane said, “would not take weight into account, i.e. would not take into account that some CAT regions have more policies than others, thus meaning that the percentages for the region carrying the most policies would carry more weight than that of a region in the county with less policies.”

Also, the discounts some have published as ranging from 24 percent to 67 percent for the hurricane portions of the policies “do appear to be correct,” Lotane said. However that doesn’t “include the rapid cash build-up factor — so the full discounts should be a bit higher. Including the rapid cash build-up factor makes the discounts range from 26.7 percent to 73.5 percent across the state.”

John Johnston can be reached at 561-549-0833, or at jjohnston@bocaneus.com

Film produced, directed by Boca woman, wins documentary award



Grace Shafir

FROM STAFF REPORTS

“Champions on Wheels,” a documentary produced by a Boca Raton woman, has won the Barbara Jordan Media Award for Best Documentary. The award will be presented April 20 in Corpus Christi, Texas, by the Texas Governor’s Committee on People with Disabilities.

The film was produced and directed by Grace Shafir, who lives and works in Boca Raton. It was her first feature length documentary. She works with Dreamin’ Productions.

“Champions on Wheels” premiered at the Palm Beach International Film Festival in 2005 and was a finalist at the Best of Florida Film Festival. “Champions” aired twice on WXEL and on WPBT. It was co-sponsored by WXEL and SC-ETV and aired nationally on PBS stations in 2006.

The documentary shatters the myth that life ends with a disability. It shows wheelchair tennis athletes compete for gold medals in the Athens’ Paralympics. “Champions on Wheels” reveals their desire to be seen as people, not as “wheelchair” people.

In 1982, the Governor’s Committee began its tradition of recognizing the communicators for accurately and progressively portraying people with disabilities. At the suggestion of many in the media, the awards

were named for the late Barbara Jordan, one of Texas’ foremost spokespersons for the rights of all people.

Sculptor David Deming designed the bronze medalion.

Each year, the committee honors a select group of communicators in the fields of print, radio, photojournalism, television, advertising, public relations and other areas.

ADL audit shows decrease in anti-Semitic incidents statewide

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The number of anti-Semitic incidents in Florida declined 10 percent in 2006, according to the Anti-Defamation League’s (ADL) annual audit of such incidents.

A total of 179 incidents were reported across Florida in 2006, with 142 incidents of harassment and 37 incidents of vandalism. The state ranks fourth in the nation in anti-Semitic incidents, behind New York, New Jersey and California, the audit says.

In 2005, ADL’s audit reported 199 anti-Jewish incidents in Florida.

The report cited several incidents in the Boca area:

- Members of a neo-Nazi

“Despite the decline, anti-Semitism remains a concern to the Anti-Defamation League and our dedication to fight anti-Semitism is stronger than ever.”

Andrew Rosenkranz
ADL Florida Regional Director

group painted swastikas and other graffiti on the walls of a gated housing community in Boca Raton. (August 2006)

- A Judaica store in West Boca Raton was vandalized. Swastikas and anti-Jewish words were scrawled across the windows. (May 2006)
- Swastikas and anti-Jewish graffiti were found on the campus of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. (December 2006)

The audit’s results in Florida reflect the 2006 national trend, he said, which also saw a decrease in anti-Semitic incidents. The League’s national audit counted a total of 1,554 anti-Semitic incidents across the United States in 2006, representing a 12 percent decline from 1,757 reported in 2005.

The audit includes data from

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Decorative Fabric FIRE SALE!

Boca Bargoons' flagship store in Boca Raton has been forced to move next door after a fire broke out and burned a portion of the building on Wednesday.

Their entire inventory of 1000's of rolls of high-end fabrics must be liquidated!

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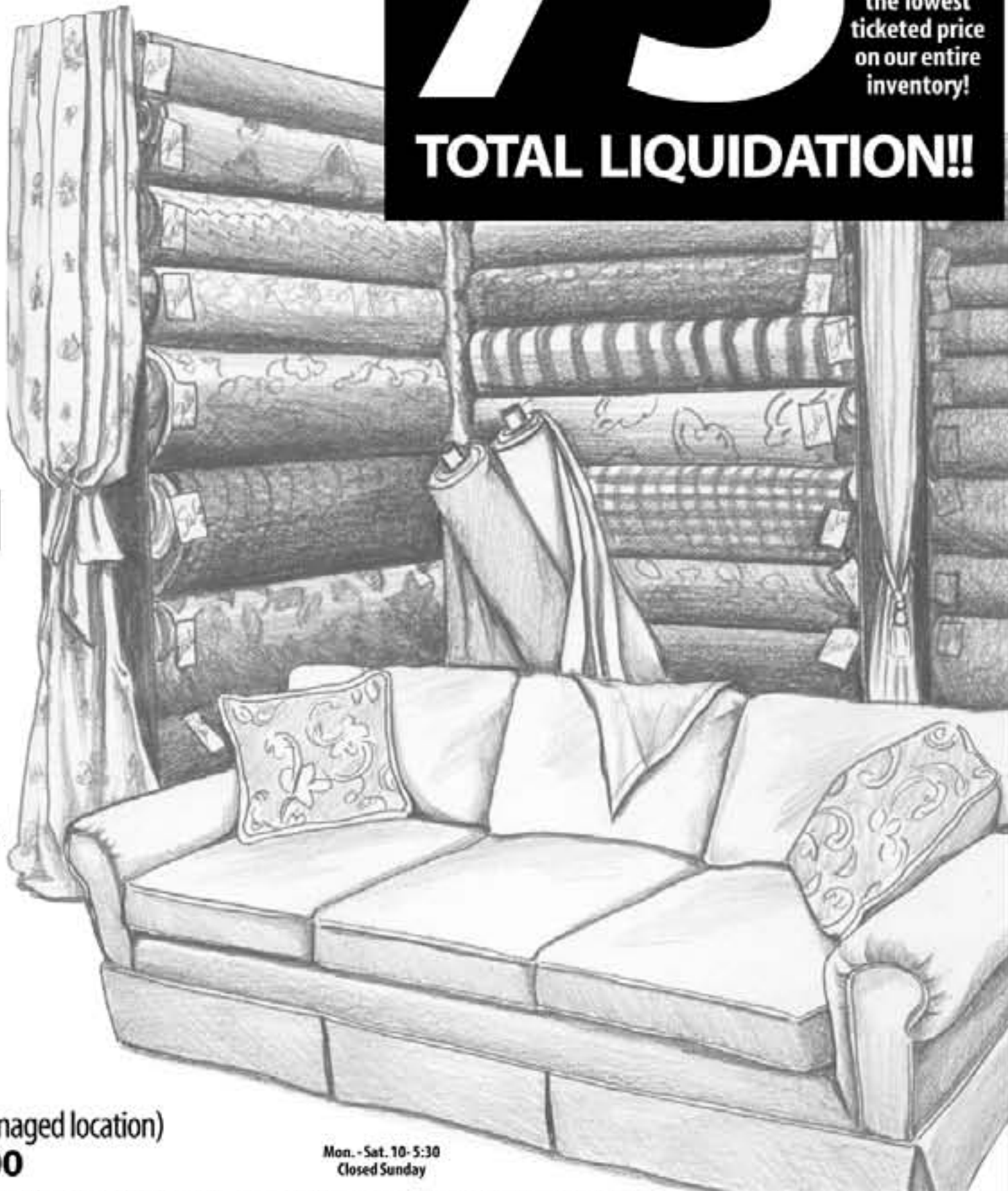
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Decorative fabric giant fire forces move and 75% off liquidation sale

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA - A small but devastating fire has forced the famous Boca Bargoons decorative fabric company to move and liquidate 1000's of rolls of fine decorative fabric.

Their new location is just next door and within walking distance of their damaged location. Boca Bargoons will be open for business at their new location on Monday with their entire inventory of high-end decorative fabrics on sale at 75% off the lowest

ticketed price!

The fire broke out last Wednesday night and took out a portion of the building which has rendered the building closed until the repairs can be made.

1000's of rolls of unique, one-of-a-kind fabrics ranging in retail prices of upwards of \$200 per yard have to be sold at 75% off their discounted prices.

Boca Bargoons lost a treasure of fine fabrics from their collection that can never be replaced. Fortunately most of their inven-

tory was unharmed and will be offered to you at this amazing sale. Anyone who knows the quality of this prestigious fabric store understands the treasures that will await them starting tomorrow. With this additional 75% off sale you are guaranteed to find the bargain of a lifetime!

All types of big name fabrics will be sold including Sealamandre and Clarence House for just pennies on the dollar.

Even if you are not in the mar-

ket for fabric right now, this liquidation sale will be worth you squirreling away fabrics for a rainy day!

In the 15 year history of Boca Bargoons there has never been a sale like this! This new store location is stocked with top-name designer decorative fabrics and trims and this beautiful inventory is lining the walls, racks and everywhere they can!

This new store is a beautiful location to shop in and the staff are ready and waiting to deal!

Their loss is your gain during this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save 75% off the fabrics that have made Boca Bargoons famous with all the best interior decorators.

This sacrifice fire sale features gorgeous silks, exquisite tapestries, fabulous cotton prints and more all at prices that have never been seen and will never be seen again!

The owners are committed to staying in the Boca Raton location and are having this sale to

show everyone that the name Boca Bargoons will always stand for quality, selection and value.

So if you love beautiful decorative fabric and want a deal of a lifetime as well, come into Boca Bargoons this week.

Their new location is right next door to their flagship building (which is closed for repairs) at 176 N. W. 20th St. and they can still be reached at (561)392-5700. Come in early for best selection! Sale starts tomorrow at 10am.

ASK DR. SHARON

Dear Dr. Sharon: A while back I read your column on how to relax and it was really helpful to me. I have a very stressful job and 4 kids- so needless to say I need to relax! Unfortunately, I lost the paper a few weeks ago and would like another "cheat sheet." Could you please either send me those techniques or re-post them in your column?

Joseph, Boca Raton

Dear Joseph: I'm so glad you've found my relaxation tips helpful; and I am happy to provide you with that information again. In fact, I think many of us can benefit from a refresher course on relaxation, so I am dedicating this week's column to this topic. Relaxation techniques can be so useful in helping you get through stressful situations, whether it is at home, at work or at school.

The first thing to do is to find a quiet place, away from distractions, where you can sit in a relaxed manner for at least three minutes. Once in this quiet place, you will experience a simple form of relaxation that will provide you with the ability to understand your personal situation and the things that impact your stress

level the most.

To begin, you need to find a personal comfort zone, which starts with your ability to breathe. When we think anxiously and have aggravating thoughts, our breathing becomes rapid and shallow. If you find yourself anxious and your breathing irregular, sit down and close your eyes. Take a deep breath in slowly through your nose. When you breathe in, feel your stomach expanding. As you exhale through your mouth, contract your stomach muscles for a count of five. Feel your chest expand as your lungs fill with air. Exhale through your mouth, to the count of five, releasing all of your negative thoughts and energy. Repeat this process over and over again until you feel yourself becoming calmer. Notice how it allows you to understand the problems that have disrupted you and your environment.

As you continue to breathe, allow yourself to be receptive to any thoughts that come to you or float through your mind. Focus on positive thoughts. Think about all of the successes you are going to achieve. Continue this process for a few more minutes and then slowly return to your surroundings. Do not jump



Sharon Buchalter

up and get back into the swirl of things just yet. Take another three to five minutes to examine what thoughts, emotions and reactions you experienced while in your calm state. This reflection has real value and will help you grow and define your perspective of the issues at hand.

Even simple relaxation can be difficult the first few times you try it. Try to stay focused; do not let other things pull you away. Give this relaxation time the priority it deserves. In time, you will look forward to this solitude and reflection. Good luck!

Dr. Sharon has a doctorate in clinical psychology from Columbia University and has advanced training in child and adolescent psychology.

Pollay advises millions on happiness

FROM STAFF REPORTS

David J. Pollay, *Boca Raton News* columnist and owner of Delray Beach-based The Momentum Project, shared his advice for increasing people's happiness and success in business with millions of viewers March 8 on the Univision Television Network. Pollay was featured on Univision's national weekly news program, "Aqui y Ahora," in a segment titled, "The Mystery of Happiness."

"Many people are looking for a magic pill," Pollay told Edna Schmidt, an investigative reporter and weekend anchor for Univision. "The truth is that we need to engage in positive practices each day if we want to change our life," said Pollay.

One practice Pollay recommended was a morning ritual of gratitude, "Each day we should start with gratitude. I begin each day grateful for my wife, my daughters, my parents, my friends..."

When asked about his advice for business owners and employees, Pollay emphasized the importance of finding meaning in our work. "We are all doing something important: We're helping people every day."

Fluent in Spanish, Pollay was interviewed at his home. The television interview included scenes of Pollay conducting a leadership workshop, and playing on the beach with his wife Dawn and their daughters, Eliana, 4, and Ariela, 3.

The Momentum Project was founded by Pollay to help leaders achieve their most important business outcomes by engaging and developing their strengths and those of their employees. His work is based in Positive Psychology, a field in which Pollay holds a Masters degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Univision reaches 99 percent of all U.S. Hispanic television households. Univision is the top Spanish-language network in the US, and the fifth largest network overall.



David J. Pollay

FAU associate professor named 'Social Worker of the Year'

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Cecilia Campoverde, an associate professor of social work in the College of Architecture, Urban and Public Affairs at Florida Atlantic University, was named "Social Worker of the Year" for the state of Florida by the National Association of Social Workers

(NASW), Florida Chapter.

Campoverde was honored for her work in a voluntary position as director of the Guatemalan Project, Inc., a nonprofit, tax-exempt public foundation she founded to assist in the development of sustainable micro-enterprises for low-income women in Guate-

mala, specifically the village of El Triunfo.

For the past four years, Campoverde assisted the women of El Triunfo, along with their families, in establishing life survival skills and ways to take care of basic needs, find employment and work through crisis.

"In doing 'action research' with a specific community such as El Triunfo, I act as a vehicle to facilitate their own identification of needs, to explore feasible and pragmatic goals and objectives, to plan effective

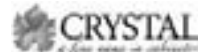
continued on Page 10



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By **Larry Corman**
and **Glenn M. Rissman**
Part 2 of 2

Establishing and informing employees about a business's anti-harassment and discrimination employment policies and procedures is only the first step in developing an effective defense against potential employee claims and lawsuits. Once the adopted policies and procedures have been reduced to writing and disseminated to all supervisors and employees, it is vital that they be consistently enforced.

To help establish enforcement, when employee complaints are made it is important that employers document the fact the complaint was made, the factual allegations made by the complaining employee, the steps the employer took to investigate the complaint, and any conclusions reached and remedial actions taken by the employer.

Creating such documentation can help an employer subsequently prove, if necessary, that the employer took the complaint seriously, acted in a timely manner, and took reasonable actions based on the information developed by the investigation.

Document incidents

Documenting the existence and resolution of employee complaints is also important, as it can assist an employer in establishing complaint patterns about particular individuals. There have been employee filed lawsuits where employers were found to have effectively ignored and disregarded applicable law by failing to record or document harassment or discrimination complaints that had been made against either managerial level employees or parties with ownership interests in the business.

Fact finders have determined that failing to create such documentation can reflect that the employer was not truly interested in complying with applicable laws, that had the employer maintained such documentation patterns of complaints regarding improper and illegal behavior by the manager would have been established, and that, accordingly, the employer should be held liable for intentionally violating the law, subjecting the employer to potential punitive damages exposure.

Witness statements

In the process of documenting the investigation, reducing witness statements to writing and having them signed is strongly recommended. Witness memories can fade over time, and if the nature of the employment relationship changes in the future, witness recollections of events can also "change." Signed statements can help "lock in" a witness's prior representations to the employer and help establish a factual basis supporting the employer's conclusions.

If it is deemed too burdensome to obtain witness statements, at a minimum, the investigator should memorialize in writing the information each interviewed witness provided.

Ideally, the employer's remedial action will resolve whatever employee complaint is being made. Human nature is such, however, that it is often impossible to make both the complaining employee and the subject of the employee's complaint happy. Accordingly, employers should always be conscious, when creating docu-



Glenn Rissman Larry Corman

ments in connection with an employee's complaints, that if the matter becomes the subject of litigation, the employer's actions will potentially be subject to a third party's review, who will be considering how the employer responded with the benefit of hindsight.

Thus, the employer's goal is to always appear as though the employer acted reasonably based on the available information at the pertinent point in time. It is also wise to avoid drawing legal conclusions in any written documentation, such as that the incident was sexual harassment or discrimination. A better approach is to use language such as "inappropriate" or "unprofessional" when describing an employee's conduct rather than labeling the conduct as "harassing" or "discriminatory."

When employers elect to treat different employees differently in connection with conduct which a third party may view as being the same or similar, documentation can become a dual edged sword that can undermine an employer's position and defense. Thus, unless an employer has legitimate business reasons and concerns that distinguish either the pertinent employees or the fact setting (ideally differences that are objectively persuasive and the existence of which are well documented), employers should review their documents and records reflecting how similar matters were previously handled, and act in a consistent manner.

Larry Corman and Glenn M. Rissman are partners in the Business Litigation Practice Group at the law firm of Hodgson Russ LLP in Boca Raton.



Ilana Linden

So. Fla. group to honor filmmaker Ilana Linden

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Chai Society will honor Ilana Linden, the Jewish/Canadian director/screenwriter of the upcoming documentary, "The Portrait of Adele," at a reception Wednesday, March 28.

The reception, to be held at the home of Ruth Ann Kalish, Ph.D. of Hillsboro Beach, also celebrates the screening of Linden's film, "Josef's Daughter," at the Women's International Film Festival of South Florida.

Robert Krakow of Boca Raton is executive producer. Kalish and Lynne D. Filderman of Washington, D.C., are associate producers. "The Portrait of Adele" team will be at the reception.

"The Portrait of Adele" will follow the events leading to the restitution of five Gustav Klimt paintings, two of which were of Austrian beauty and patron of the arts, Adele Bloch-Bauer. The paintings were looted by the Nazis during World War II and subsequently displayed in the Galerie Belvedere in Vienna.

Bloch-Bauer was a muse to Klimt and a model for his work, as well as an important Jewish "Saloniere" leading the main salon in Vienna. Justice and restitution of the paintings occurred after a seven-year court battle to restore the paintings to their rightful heir, Maria Altmann, Bloch-Bauer's niece. The issue of restitution of Nazi looted art and justice is a main theme in the film.

The Chai Society is a recreation of the Jewish salons of Europe early in the 20th century.

ADL audit

from Page 4

across Florida, including information provided to ADL's Florida regional office by victims, law enforcement officers and community leaders. The Audit identifies both criminal acts, such as vandalism, violence and threats of violence, and non-criminal incidents of harassment and intimidation, including hate propaganda, leafletting and verbal slurs.

"While the overall number of anti-Semitic incidents in Florida decreased, there was a 32 percent increase in incidents of anti-Semitic vandalism," said Dennis G. Kainen, ADL Florida Regional

Chair. "Vandalism tends to have a larger and more visceral community impact as a result of its immediate visibility."

ADL officials said they are pleased that in many cases there was community-wide condemnation of the incidents.

They said the ADL Florida office continues to closely partner with local law enforcement agencies to provide security awareness seminars to Jewish institutions and to provide extensive guidelines for target-hardening Jewish community institutions.

Tax collector sends notices

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Office of the Tax Collector sent 67,672 reminder tax notices Tuesday, March 13. Persons or entities that have not yet paid 2006 Property Tax or Tangible Personal Property Tax will receive a notice.

Taxes for the year 2006 are delinquent on April 1, 2007. Taxes paid in April or May are charged 3 percent interest (18 percent per annum for 2 months).

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Pets Q&A

Allergic Reactions

By Dr. Brant Jauer

Most people at one time or another have experienced an allergic reaction with their pets. An allergic reaction is a common pet emergency that can occur very quickly. Many times, allergic reactions occur after a pet has been outside either on a walk or out in the back yard. Usually, after coming back inside, the pet appears normal. Within 10-15 minutes your pet may begin scratching or rubbing his/her head on the floor. Within minutes you may notice your pet's face becoming swollen or you may notice hives on the face or on the back.

What is an allergic reaction?

An allergic reaction is an acute episode of itching, scratching, swelling or redness caused by massive release of histamine by natural immune cells within your pet's body.

What causes allergic reactions?

These reactions are caused by allergies to things your pet is exposed to or something your pet may have eaten. The most common reactions are caused by bites or stings from insects, spiders, ants, fleas, and bees, or from exposure to allergenic plants (ie poison ivy). Less common reactions can occur from eating certain types of food or garbage, exposure to molds or mites, or in rare cases can occur after vaccinations given at your veterinarian. Allergic reactions are far more common in dogs than in cats.

How can I tell if my pet is having an allergic reaction?

You may see facial swelling around the eyes, mouth, lips, or ears. You may also see hives on the face or over the back, legs, or belly. Your pet may vomit or develop diarrhea. In cases of severe reactions your pet may have trouble breathing from swelling around the neck. Your pet may even go into shock from the worst form of an allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. When this occurs your pet may collapse, not get back up, experience trouble breathing, and may appear very pale.

What should I do when my pet is having an allergic reaction?

The best thing to do when your pet is having an allergic reaction is to call your regular veterinarian, or if your regular veterinarian is closed call your nearest 24 hour pet emergency hospital for advice. Unless the reaction is very minor, they will likely recommend that you bring your pet right over for examination and medication to help treat the reaction.

What treatment does my pet need for an allergic reaction?

With minor allergic reactions, your veterinarian will administer anti-inflammatory medication and antihistamines. In most cases this will stop the reaction and your pet will slowly begin to feel better. In more severe cases, your pet may need to be hospitalized to receive IV fluids, especially if the swelling is severe or if your pet is experiencing anaphylaxis. In the most severe cases, your pet may need intensive care to help him or her breathe if there is swelling involving the neck or airways.

How can I prevent my pet from experiencing an allergic reaction?

Most of the time it is very difficult to prevent an allergic reaction. If you know what your pet is allergic to, you can limit your pet's exposure. If your pet has allergies you can consult with your regular veterinarian about protecting him or her from allergies and how to identify what he or she is allergic to. If an allergic reaction occurs after a vaccination, steps are taken in the future to prevent it from happening again. It is also wise to watch your pet closely while outdoors to prevent them from getting into things such as weeds, insects, toads, reptiles, or chemicals.

Dr. Brant Jauer practices in Boca Raton.

Pets Corner

What you don't know about dog and cat food

By W.E. Piechocki and Dr. D. M. Sudduth, DVM.

Most pet owners are under the belief that dogs and cats are at their best if they only eat manufactured dog or cat food. The truth is that dog and cat foods were originally developed and marketed primarily to provide profits for the pet food companies.

Back in the 1950's, the manufacturers of pet foods were cereal companies who produced the original convenience food for pet owners. (Up until then, Rover and Kitty shared our "people or real" food).

Even today, very few pet food companies are truly concerned with the optimal health of your pet. The highly competitive pet food industry is geared towards collecting your pet food dollars to the extent that they have exaggerated and even made false claims about their actual food content.

To understand pet food, you must first understand your pet. Dogs and cats are carnivores, meat eaters, with a very different digestive system than human beings.

Dry foods for pets are full of grains and many indigestible ingredients. It does not matter how high a price tag, how reputable the supplier may be, or how "premium" the content is claimed to be. The fact is that grains are carbohydrates, for which dogs and cats (carnivores) have no need. Human beings and pets go about converting the foods they eat into energy in different manners. Grains also metabolize directly into glucose, which can feed cancer cells.

The conversion of these carbohydrates into "sugar" also contributes to our pets becoming overweight and diabetic, as well as most other allergies. That's why "Rover" and "Kitty" have



itchy, flakey skin, infected ears, runny eyes, tear staining and bite and chew at their paws.

Dry foods are also full of preservatives. Some "meat and fish meals" on the market are not required to list these preservatives. Do not be fooled by pet food labels that claim to have no preservatives. You can find some higher quality foods out there that do use "natural" preservatives, such as vitamins. Another issue regarding dry foods is the limitations of meat content due to the processing equipment used to make the kibble.

It is the cereal grains, corn, wheat, rice and oats combined with poor quality and small quantities of meat along with the cooking process that is "wrong" with even the "best" dry and also many canned pet foods. Unless your pet food is composed mostly of real meats, not "meat meals or with real ... Beef, turkey, etc", look for a new food and give your pet the life they deserve.

For pet nutritional needs seek a nutritionist with experience in natural diets.

This article summarizes nearly 35 years of research and was written by W.E. Piechocki, General Manager of Fiesta Pet Deli, and President of BioVance Animal Health, along with Dr. D. M. Sudduth, DVM. Additional information can be found at www.RealFood4Pets.com, or at 954-971-2500. The above article is for informational purposes only and based on the author's research. You should not act solely upon this information supplied without first consulting professional advice specific to your pet.

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SANDELMAN

The Problem is They Don't Know the Problem

Editor's Note: Bob Sandelman, a man referred to by The New York Times as "the wizard of sales promotion," was the first to define the sales promotion industry. He formed the first sales promotion agency, Robert Brian Associates, in 1955 in the United States. His unusual and successful ideas have earned him an outstanding reputation among such prestigious corporations as Nabisco, Chesebrough-Ponds, and American Home Products. He is the mind behind entertainment in supermarkets and is the creator of the American Express Gold Card.

Edited by Managing Editor John Johnston, The Boca Raton News is pleased to present a serialization of Sandelman's book: "The Problem is They Don't Know the Problem." A current Boca Raton resident, Sandelman can be reached at sandelman@msn.com. The next installment follows:

The head of a major corporation cleaning his own carpet?

Yes, that's where we left Bissell CEO John Bissell last week — about to tackle that job — the price he had to pay to get my marketing solution from me.

However, as it turned out (believe it or not), the Bissell offices didn't have on premises the equipment necessary for the cleaning job.

So, in order to meet the challenge, John Bissell III, after suspending the board-room meeting, had to climb into his Porsche and drive to a nearby supermarket.

He invited me along, and when we got inside the store, I observed several shelves in one aisle devoted to nothing but Bissell products. I pointed this out to him, commenting on how it must feel to see one's own name so prominently displayed.

"Ah, well," said John, reaching for a bottle of Bissell Rug Shampoo Concentrate, "It's family, you know. One is born into it. My great uncle started the whole thing back in 1911."

And so, as we stood in the checkout line, I marveled at the incongruity of the moment: the head of the Bissell empire, sandwiched in a queue between two housewives with cornucopia carts overflowing, patiently waiting to pay full retail price for a single item, a bottle of his

own rug shampoo.

Leaving the supermarket, I reminded John about the Shampoo Master, and how, if he were the average customer and he wanted to use the Bissell product, he would now have to visit a hardware store to purchase the applicator. As we got back into his Porsche, I remembered seeing a curious expression fall on the scion's face, and on the ride back to headquarters, he was pensively quiet.

We returned to an extraordinary scene. There, in the reception area, a crowd of curious employees had gathered to witness Bissell's assignment. Word of my challenge to Bissell had spread, and the onlookers had come to see for themselves: John Bissell III — owner, resident of the executive corner office — stooping, literally, to shampoo the reception room carpet.

Ignoring the astonished audience of employees and executives, he simply rolled up his sleeves and went to work.

For two hours the board members and curious onlookers witnessed the unthinkable, the sight of John Bissell perspiring like a draft horse as he scrubbed and vacuumed the reception area of the very building that bore his name.

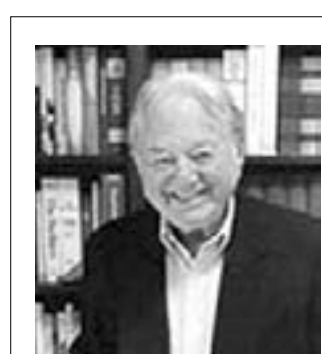
It was nearly lunchtime, and the boardroom meeting reconvened. Thirty-five disbelieving subjects settled back into their chairs, all facing the royal head of the table.

"All right, Bob, ask me that question."

Now they all turned toward me, itching to hear my question.

With all the sincerity I could muster, and in a very loud voice, I asked, "John, do your TV commercials work?"

There was another eerie pause, as the treasurer looked



Robert Sandelman

at the chemist, and the ad manager looked at the accountant, and the product managers looked back and forth at each other. Finally, after a very long look at his nonplused staff, John Bissell III looked at me.

"That's it?" he asked, "That's your question? Do my TV commercials work?"

I repeated my question, "Do your TV commercials work?"

John peered down the line of chairs at the conference table, as if he were listening for the sound of grinding teeth. Then, slapping his knee, he replied, "No, they don't work!"

"And may I ask who authorized them?"

"Well, uh, I did, of course," said John. "I did."

"And what is your television budget?"

"About \$8 million a year."

My response to this was a soft whistle of surprise, hoping to underscore the extent of this costly media disaster. Here was a company spending \$8 million to broadcast a dud, while the competition was announcing (and successfully demonstrating on TV) a breakthrough innovation. I was certain now that the morning's exercise had clearly focused the problem for John Bissell III, if not his staff.

The elegant chairman — still in his shirtsleeves from the

continued on Page 10



Boca Greens

from Page 3

course include: laser leveling and re-grassing of the tee-boxes, replacing the fairways with Tifdwarf 419 Bermuda Grass, renovating all of the sand bunkers and expanding, laser leveling and renovating the practice facility. Several tee boxes will also be moved adding distance to the already 6819-yard golf course, Frank said.

The club house itself will receive a new look with new carpeting, locker room renovations, painting, new chairs and tables in the main dining room and a bar renovation. The Club is also looking to possibly add a ca-

sual dining grillroom. The golf course will re-open Nov. 1. Clubhouse renovations will take place in July and August.

"Our number one priority is member satisfaction and our number one asset is our golf course," said Frank. "These improvements will give us the ability to compete with any Private Country Club in South Florida. New members join Boca Greens because of our outstanding member services, Joe Lee Golf Course, fine and casual dining and now the best conditioned course in the area."

FAU scholarship

from Page 3

retirement in 1986.

His wife of 47 years, Janice, died in 2001. Their son, Julian, died in 1998 at age 33. He had earned a degree in communication from FAU's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters.

Dale M. King can be reached at 561-549-0832 or at dking@bocaneews.com.

Free throws

from Page 1

Adam has achieved the Presidential Fitness Award every year it has been given. He has earned the nickname, "Little Nash," for the similar style of play of Steve Nash — and for his prowess at the free throw line.

Dale M. King can be reached at 561-549-0832 or at dking@bocaneews.com.

FCAT

from Page 1

accountability goals mandated by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), many national educators support FCAT by virtue of support for NCLB.

One such example is Pennsylvania educator, Dr. Joan Shepard. Shepard, an educator for 34 years, is now employed by NAEP, a national testing organization that, and since 1969, has tested 3rd, 8th, and 12th grade students all over the nation every other year. Statewide, school districts are chosen randomly. The results of these assessments are reported in The Nation's Report Card, and individual schools are not named or compared to other schools.

None of which diminishes her support of NCLB — and in turn, support for FCAT — which was developed with NCLB theoretical objectives in mind.

Opponents of NCLB/FCAT usu-

ally just criticize "the parts that make the NCLB program seem like an absciss that school districts have to deal with, instead of what the test really is — school district accountability, help with poor performing schools, and parental choice among a few."

And have no doubt about it, there's no shortage of local FCAT/(NCLB) critics.

Strengths vs. weaknesses

Many local educators laud FCAT's credibility to its ability to measure student strengths and weaknesses.

Some Boca Raton education administrators have that same mindset.

"When we get the information back from the state score, it shows us where the student's strengths and weaknesses are," said Boca

Raton Elementary School principal Bradley Henry. "After we get the information back we look at placing strategies and tutoring for the following year to meet those students' needs."

To relieve any pre-testing jitters, Henry used incentives to motivate students to achieve. Those included matching students up as FCAT buddies, making good luck charms called money rocks, and pet FCAT caterpillars. But the biggest incentive was waging a bet that he would shave off his hair if the school made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

"The student that made the most learning growth would get to shave the hair off my head," Henry said. "They're all really thrilled about that. They keep asking me when they're getting the scores back."

Nicol Jenkins can be reached at njenkins@bocaneews.com or 561-549-0844.

Miss Palm Beach County 2007

from Page 1

Pachter will represent Palm Beach County in the Miss Florida Pageant, June 24-30 in St. Petersburg, an official state event that is preliminary to the Miss America Pageant. Sarah's platform is Cervical Cancer Awareness and Prevention, and she has appeared at a number of local events speaking about this issue.

Beyond that, Pachter says her career goal is "to be-

come a cantor."

But for now, "the nicest thing is to be the title holder where you live."

Editor's Note: Sarah can be reached at MissPBC@gmail.com or visit her website www.sarahpachter.com.

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Social worker

from Page 7

management procedures, and to established their own outcome evaluation," said Campoverde.

"In essence, this is a teaching/learning process that is ongoing; one that is tangible and that makes for real societal change. This model of building sustainable communities may be viable to other communities in other places of the world."

Campoverde earned her master's degree in social work in community organization from Adelphi University in New York. She also earned a master's in education and a Ph.D. in research and evaluation from Hofstra University in New York.

Along with being a mental health counselor, Campoverde also co-founded and serves as a consultant

for the Latin American Immigrant and Refugee Organization, Inc. and the Guatemalan Maya Quetzal Organization, Inc. Active in several community organizations, Campoverde's research and service interests are in the area of immigration and disabilities.

"This award honors your accomplishments and leadership in education, your dedication to serving the global community, and your commitment to advancing the social work profession," said Jacquelyn Nash, NASW president of the Florida chapter.

The Florida State NASW conference will take place in June, where Campoverde will receive the honorary award.



Sandelman

from Page 9

cleaning chore — leaned back in his chair. His chin cocked at a saucy angle, he squinted in my direction.

"All right," he said, "if we retain you, what are

you going to do for us?"
I knew he was going to ask that.
Next Sunday: Are You Serious, Bob?



(Dale King/Staff Photo)
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commissioner Michael Dunn, right, explains how his organization has partnered with local law enforcement agencies to cut down on foreign currency trading fraud. With him are Boca Raton Police Detective Rob Flechaus and Lisa Porter, chief assistant in the Florida Office of Statewide Prosecution.

Boca Outreach

from Page 2

South Florida, knowing "these people will be all over them."

But then, he said, the perpetrators go to another area where enforcement is not so tight — and set up shop again.

Dunn said the CFTC has appointed a public outreach and education task force "seeking to alert and educate the general public about the growing epidemic of fraudulent solicitation and sales of forex to retail investors."

The task force has two goals, he said: to raise consumer awareness and to encourage local, state and federal authorities to "assist our efforts in fighting forex fraud."

The partnership, he said, is designed "to put some of these people behind bars. We want these people

to feel like Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, to keep looking over their shoulders and saying, 'Who's that?'"

Since 2001, when the Commodity Futures Modernization Act was put into effect, the commission has filed 94 enforcement actions against 170 firms and 187 individuals selling illegal forex futures and options contracts.

As a result, the commission got monetary sanctions of about \$446 million and \$247 million in restitution.

For the consumer, Dunn offered a one-sentence warning: "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

Dale M. King can be reached at 561-549-0832 or at dking@bocaneus.com.



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LETTERS
TO THE
EDITORS

Rocks the Legislature

Dear Editor:

Palm Beach County "Rocked" Florida's Capitol City during Palm Beach County Days 2007, which was held during the opening week of the 2007 Florida Legislative Session in Tallahassee. This annual event featured speaking engagements, informational meetings and festive functions aimed at gaining state lawmakers' support for local bills and spending appropriations.

Commissioners, sponsors, and registrants welcomed the opportunity to meet personally with state senators and representatives, Cabinet members and committee leaders urging their support on a list of local items. Among the top funding priorities this year are broadening the economic base, providing safe and clean drinking water, heading off unfunded mandates and cost shifts, protecting the environment, improving our transportation systems, enhancing public safety, and expanding parks and youth recreation programs.

One goal of Palm Beach County Days is to increase the legislative appeal of the events and with members of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation hosting every event this year, that goal was met and exceeded with an estimated attendance of over 70 legislators.

Palm Beach County Days was organized by the Public Affairs Department with the help of dozens of volunteers. Additionally, 71 corporate and municipal sponsors and nearly 400 registrants picked up the tab for meals, lodging, transportation, venue bookings, entertainment, prizes and giveaways. Thanks to all of those involved, Palm Beach County Days 2007 was a resounding success and will only get better.

Beth Ingold-Love,
Public Affairs Director
Palm Beach County

Speak Up.

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Be Heard.

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We welcome comments from our readers.

Please limit submissions to 200-word letters no more than once monthly. Letters must include full name, daytime telephone number and address for verification purposes. The Boca Raton News reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style and accuracy.

RAY RUSSOTTO



GOT A MINUTE? GORDON BUSHELL

When we bought our first house in Florida, we were thrilled. It was the perfect size and had virtually everything we needed. It never occurred to us we had everything except the one thing we needed most — a basement. We had no place to dump things — throw things — accumulate things. Everybody needs some place for all the junk they collect and just can't get themselves to throw away. Since they don't build basements down here, I guess they build the next best thing — storage places.

Know this and never forget it — once you put your junk in a storage area, it never comes out! It's your junk and your storage area for life. The reason is simple — there's no place to throw the stuff away.

The storage area won't let you get rid of it anywhere on their property.

If they did, it would become their junk. So where can you dump — excuse me — leave the stuff? Should I take it to some far off, isolated, wooded spot, known only to serial killers? I think not.

And you never see the problem coming. You rent storage space as a temporary measure. You think you'll need the space for maybe a year. After three years of paying rent, it dawns on you, you're in for life! And your kids' life! And their kids' life! This junk will be in your family in perpetuity.

Sometimes I have to go to my space with something else I can't get myself to throw out. I walk through the place and it's loaded with other people's junk just like mine. Their bins are full. They're in for life just like me. We're all prisoners — lifers! This is a cellblock for junk.

And guards are not needed because nobody's going to try to smuggle anything out. There's no escape.

Now here's the kicker. I also rent storage space up North. We moved from a large house to a small apartment and just couldn't get ourselves to throw anything away. I'm a two-time lifer.

I keep hearing these politicians warn we are going to strap future generations

with our huge national debt. Worse than that, I'm going to stick my future descendants with two storage areas of junk they can't use they don't want and they can't get rid of. How does that make me feel? Like junk!

My wife and I decided to visit our lawyer and make provisions in our wills for the passing on of our storage junk. This must be treated like a family safe deposit box. We are going to leave everything to our children equally so there will be no fighting or jealousy. But it's unfair to stick our kids with the responsibility and expense of maintaining and caring for our junk. To that end, we plan to establish and endow a trust fund in the name of, "The Bushell Junk Storage Complex". Our children will be named Executors and Trustees of this fund and will be directed to act wisely and prudently in safeguarding the principle and to always, first and foremost, invest in the best interests of our junk.

Only one proviso. No junk bonds.

THE BUZZ ON BOCA

If all the recent culture and art had you longing for the good old days of mindless fun in the sun, then your ship came in last weekend. Better know as the Boca Bacchanal, this three-day festival of gastronomic pleasures was the final chapter to a week of sensory indulgence.

Named after the Roman festival of Bacchus (they were pretty wild affairs), Boca Bacchanal tantalizes the senses with fine food, wine and pleasures. The good news is that this hedonistic feast not only benefits attendees, but the proceeds go to the Heritage Education Programs at the Boca Raton Historical Society.

The Bacchanal ritual begins with a Vintner dinner. What, you ask is a Vintner dinner? It's when local Boca residents open their homes to celebrated chefs and accomplished vintners. They feed you and educate you about the birthright of your impending feast. Rare delicacies such as wild stripped shrimp (they're vegetarians — go figure) and chock-cherry glazed British Columbian Sablefish are toasted and tasted with wines that are fawned over more than your average yuppie offspring.

Patti Carpenter opened her waterside home to folks such as Haidee and Gardner Courson (he's a lawyer for Tyco, she's a volunteer at the Historical Society), Cynthia Brown (a past president of the Historical Society), their friend Karen King from Atlanta and others who enjoy enjoying the finer things in life. If you're ever been to Canyon Ranch's lunch and learn then you know the gist of this educational feast. It's a place where wine connoisseurs and foodies get to converse about the obvious (organic milk) and the sublime (Haidee and Karen climbed a mountain in Machu Picchu and sailed down the Amazon River).

The grand tasting on Sunday would have

made the Roman god Bacchus proud. There was delicacies from local restaurants (how does antelope with raspberry truffle balsamic sauce from Luna Rosa sound?) and wine from across the globe. Café Joley upped the ante with seared scallops with beef oxtail and parmesan and Bova Ristorante surprised us with grilled Mediterranean octopus with haricot verts and olive oil (they had a real octopus on hand and it was not a pretty sight — proving that looks can be deceiving).

Although it was a bit overwhelming in scope (I am sure the Roman Empire fell after one of these), the brownie from Bogart's Bar and Grille convinced me that events such as this are as necessary as carrying your car registration. If food and wine are your drug of choice then The Grand Tasting at Mizner Park is the place to go (again all proceeds go to the Historical Society).

If you missed the Boca Bacchanal, then there's still time to lunch and learn. McCormick & Schmick's (at University Commons) is feeling crabby enough to celebrate the land loving creature known as the crab. From now until March 31st you can partake in a crab fest and try fresh blue crab, Dungeness crab, crabcakes, crab claws, stone crabs or king crabs. Although there are 4,500 different crabs (who knew?) on the planet these are pretty representative of their ilk.

For those lucky enough to have witnessed violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman take center stage at Mizner Park, kudos to you. Over 3000 people made the pilgrimage to this outdoor stage in search of musical genius — and none were disappointed. Although the event bore resemblance to more hectic venues (does Long Island on a Saturday night sound familiar?) it had the air of something auspicious — and auspicious it was. Perlman's performance was outstanding (realtor Karen Anderson called it superb like fine wine), and



Diane Feen

the air around him seemed tinged with gold. The zealous motorcyclists that revved their engines during the Russian National Orchestra last Wednesday (and almost caused a musical tsunami) were kept out of Mizner Park this go round.

If you admire musical genius and think you have hidden talent, head over to The Holy Cross Hospital March 28 and compete to become the next Senior Idol. If you're 65-years-old (or older) and have a good voice you can win \$1000 and a free pass to ride Tri-Rail for one year (you can give the Lexus to the kids). Twelve finalists will be picked to perform at the final audition May 22 at the Parker Playhouse in Ft. Lauderdale. To register for an audition time, call 954-351-7804 by March 23.

In the aftermath all this cultural and culinary greatness I think it's safe to say we've witnessed the best of everything. But to make sure we don't end up like the Romans, I'm headed off to the library. Because like fine wine, life needs just the right balance of ingredients to make sure it has the perfect amount of sweetness. See you there!

DF the bedonist.....diane_feen@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

Database
Deity

Do you want every website you visit, every word you Google, or every e-mail you send to be stored by your Internet Service provider?

That's the plan called for by U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, and in turn planned to be introduced as legislation by Rep. Dianne DeGette (D-Colo.)

But do we really want to turn that kind of information over to:

- An Internet Service provider?
- Or the Federal government by default?

Not only would such a plan cost service providers an enormous amount of money to create, use and monitor — the security issues border on nightmarish.

The proponents of such a plan point to the motherhood and apple pie benefit that such data retention would permit law enforcement to more easily convict pedophiles, for example.

But believe it or not, Rep. DeGette once even suggested making this information available not only to the police, but also to those involved in civil litigation.

Mandates from government to store data will create the worst kind of slippery slope; that is, if you let the data retention camel stick its nose into the tent of privacy, you can kiss that notion goodbye forever.

The mandated storage of data could easily be abused to analyze Internet users' personalities, habits and preferences. That's great for spammers and hackers — and most certainly to those whose political interests don't necessarily match up with your own.

But most importantly, such a data storage system would be a candy store for identity thieves. Forget that the much-vaunted Internet giant AOL accidentally published 20 million search queries — including subscribers' Social Security, credit card, or telephone numbers. Or how about the more than 1000 laptops that the US Department of Commerce says have "vanished" — all containing personal data.

Your personal data, perhaps?

With his almost stoic look at proactive individual passivity in the chilling novel 1984, even George Orwell couldn't have imagined how far along we would actually come in selling our souls to what now can only be called the Database Deity.

In Orwell's book, it was a dictatorial government keeping itself in power by causing citizens to believe the nation was always at war. It did so by constantly reinventing the ways in which language communicates reality — and, thus, changing the reality.

Today, government has joined with commerce, and now we worship at the feet of the Database Deity. We cast data shadows and, Druid like, gather in front of flickering candle monitors while information gleaned from these shadows is being stored in linked databases around the globe.

Moreover, because of the vast amount of data that would eventually be collected under a data retention bill, it is doubtful whether law enforcement authorities could ever effectively analyze this data. Many innocents could and would be swept up along with criminal suspects.

Does this entire scenario mean we should, in fact, go fearfully screaming into the night?

Consider this: power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

That is a political maxim, uttered long ago, and now even easier to implement, given the blinding speed of our digital world.

The pedophile chasing objectives that mandatory data retention supporters talk about might be noble. But do you want your government to mandate this? And your Internet Service provider to be in charge of it?

The answer is no.

Given the huge costs and threat to consumers' privacy and liberties, mandatory data retention should never see the light of day.

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 - 16 Barber-shop call
 - 17 Compass pt.
 - 18 Grand-scale tale
 - 19 Wildebeest
 - 20 Talk a blue streak?
 - 21 Mimic
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 - 25 Time for an egg roll
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 - 10 B&B's
 - 11 — out (supplements)
 - 20 Locomotive feature
 - 22 Tea variety
 - 24 Jockey's handful
 - 25 Undergo recession
 - 26 Will Smith biopic
 - 27 "Mayday!"
 - 29 Atmosphere
 - 30 "Golly!"
 - 31 Mess up
 - 35 Satisfy
 - 36 Grad-to-be
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P	Y	R	E	S		H	E	M		L	E	I		
R	O	O	D		Z	I	T		I	T	L	L		
E	G	O			O	I	L		K	N	O	L	L	
P	I	T	C	H		P	I	P	E	S				
			B	L	O	C		S	W	I	V	E	L	
T	R	E	Y		O	R	A		G	I	V	E		
S	E	E	D		D	E	L		H	I	E	S		
P	O	R	E		E	L	M		T	I	N	T		

Yesterday's answer 3-16

Sudoku

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers to 9 in the empty squares so that each column and each 3x3 contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

								9
		6	8				5	
	3		7		4			
3		9						
4	8				7	1		
				5		2		
	4		6		3			
7			2	8				
6								

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

7	5	6	8	3	4	2	9	1
1	2	3	9	5	7	8	4	6
9	4	8	2	6	1	7	5	3
3	1	2	7	9	8	4	6	5
6	7	9	4	2	5	3	1	8
4	8	5	6	1	3	9	2	7
8	6	7	1	4	9	5	3	2
5	9	1	3	8	2	6	7	4
2	3	4	5	7	6	1	8	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Sunday, March 18, 2007:
 You develop a very interesting style of communicating this year. Where there were rough edges, now there is discretion and diplomacy. As a result, people want to be with you more, and your professional life grows. Still, your unpredictable behavior has an impact — not always with the results you want. **AQUARIUS** reads you cold. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES
March 21-April 19
 ★★★★★ You play a key role in getting events to happen. Bring friends together for a dynamic happening. Don't worry so much about a tendency to overindulge, even if you aren't Irish. Spending could be an issue. Tonight: A force to behold.

TAURUS
April 20-May 20
 ★★★ Tradition might be important, but for once, you might be in the mood to do something different. Whether you take off or visit with a favorite person makes no difference. Tonight: Give serious thought to a special relationship.

GEMINI
May 21-June 20
 ★★★★★ People often think of you as gregarious. Create a special day with an important someone you love and adore. Oddly enough, as hard as it might seem, you could be so dazzled that you forget that today is St. Patrick's Day. Tonight: Know that you are being watched.

CANCER
June 21-July 22
 ★★★★★ Listen to what is being said as well as what isn't said. Understand that perhaps there are alternatives. The only mistake you might make is not being around friends and people. Your popularity soars. Tonight: You can count on the fact that you are where the party is.

LEO
July 23-Aug. 22
 ★★★★★ Whether you throw the party or decide to pitch in on some project, you will be busy. Slow down enough to enjoy the people who surround you. Someone clearly wants to star in your attention. Let it happen. Tonight: Nap and then decide what appeals to you.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
 ★★★★★ Sometimes you are in much better shape than you think. Your charisma and high energy make you irresistible. Use that magic to add to your life. Surprises come from partners and associates in general. Tonight: Be Irish.

LIBRA
Sept. 23-Oct. 22
 ★★★★★ Don't get an attitude. You might opt to stay close to home rather than toss yourself into the festivities. In fact, mellow might be how you want it; still, you will be subject to spurts of energy. Tonight: Touch base with a key person.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 ★★★★★ Hanging out feels right. Sensuality is high; you are happy and full of energy. Why shouldn't

you have what you want? Others want your company. Joking around and teasing need to happen naturally. You don't have to go far. Tonight: Hang out.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 ★★★★★ Put yourself on a budget before you do any damage that could be most uncomfortable. Understand your limits. Laugh and relax, but a little self-discipline goes a long way. Even if everyone is outrageous, you seem to amplify the moment. Tonight: Get ready for the unexpected. You could be shocked.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 ★★★ You notice that you glow, whether you are into St. Patty's Day or have other plans. A good time is had by nearly all Goats. Your words could shock someone; and another person could jolt you. Tonight: Remember, you are treating.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 ★★★★★ Know when to back off and head in a new direction. You don't have to explain your behavior or decisions. Seize the moment, and the world can be your oyster. You might not intend to be secretive, but others find you mysterious. Tonight: Even more into the moment..

PISCES
Feb. 19-March 20
 ★★★ Listen and share with friends. No matter what is going on or what your plans are, you'll have a good time. Let your hair down with friends. A little discretion goes a long way. Tonight: Remember to treat yourself well.



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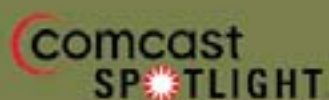


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SPORTS

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YOUR TEAMS ARE OUR TEAMS

Another Bellisari makes a difference at Boca Raton

By **Mario Sarmiento**
 SPORTS EDITOR

Amy Bellisari never thought she would be back in Boca Raton so soon.

The former Boca Raton High softball star had been a graduate assistant at Ohio University, where she was studying for her Master's degree.

"A few things happened that were out of my control, so I came down here in November," she said.

Bellisari also never thought she'd be following in her father's footsteps.

Art Bellisari, of course, was the face of the Boca Raton High softball program for more than 20 years until his sudden death last March as a result of a heart attack.

He coached Amy while she was a player, and he coached with Amy's former Florida Atlantic University teammate and current co-coach Christina Thompson.

"My dad was trying to get me back here all along," Amy said with a laugh. "I guess this was his master plan."

Mary Beth said she had mixed feelings about her daughter returning, mainly because she wanted things to work out for her in Ohio, but she's glad to have Amy back.

"It's been very good to have her home," she said. "She's been very good company for me, and it's good to have her support."

Last year was a trying one for the Bellisaris and the Boca Raton High softball family. Art was a beloved figure and a huge supporter of both the softball and football programs, and he, Amy, her mother May Beth and other parents actually helped build the softball field the Bobcats now play on.

Art's presence is still missed by the team, as his former players take the white bucket he sat on to every game. And win or lose, the bucket usually finds its way onto the field while the players gather around their new coaches.

"There's a lot of things I miss about him," Bobcats pitcher Jennifer Hill said. "He showed us how to keep our heads up. He's an influence."

Amy has wasted no time in adding her own influence to the players. As a former player herself who was on strong Bobcats teams from the late 1990s, she lends credibility and years of experience to the girls.

"It's really been great to have her here too, and kind of bring that carryover," Thompson said. "We've

known each other for so long, we've played together. It's nice to have us both here."

The players are also glad to have Amy around.

"She has a lot of helpful hitting hints," Hill said. "Her and Christina together are a good combination."

Amy's coaching style is a bit different from Art's, as players, coaches and Mary Beth will attest.

"She's actually a lot tougher on the kids than Art ever was," Mary Beth said. "Art was a softie once you knew him, but Amy's not."

Amy's goal is to coach at the collegiate level someday, but she has enjoyed her experience coaching the Bobcats so far. Boca Raton started the season slowly, but the Bobcats are back above .500 at 7-6 after a 5-4 win over Olympic Heights in extra innings Wednesday.

"I love working with people, and it's a lot of fun," Amy said. "It's something I know how to do."

Art left a lasting legacy in the community. A new scoreboard will be raised at Boca High with his name on it, and the field will officially be renamed the Art Bellisari Field. Amy isn't afraid to follow her father; in fact she embraces the opportunity.



Boca Raton High co-coach Amy Bellisari is following in the footsteps of her father, Art, who coached the Bobcats for more than 20 years. It's something her mother, Mary Beth (right) is happy about.

"I think it's really cool," she said. "It's only right, he helped build the field here."

For now, Amy is looking forward. She and Thompson still have

a team to lead, and they are hoping the players have learned enough lessons from early in the season to be a threat when the district playoffs roll around.

"They've gotten 110 times better," Bellisari said. "I see so much progress in them already, and there's so much more they can do and they can get so much better."

Delray Beach soccer announces tryout dates for 2007-08

NEWS STAFF REPORTS

Delray Beach Soccer Club Competitive Soccer Program Tryouts for our 2007-2008 competitive teams are scheduled for the week of April 9-12 at Miller Park, located at 1905 SW 4TH Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444 (SW 4th Ave is off Linton Blvd just to the east of Global Imports)

Girls U9 - U12 is April 9 and 11 from 6-7:15 p.m. for Girls Under 9 & 10. Girls 11 and 12 are from 7:30 -8:45 p.m.

Boys U9 - U12 are April 10 & 12 from 6-7:15 p.m. for boys Under 9 and 10. Boys 11 and 12 are from 7:30-8:45 p.m. All ages are as of August 2007.

Players 12 and older will tryout the week of May 21-24. Players need cleats and shin guards.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start of the first tryout session to register.

Players should attend all tryouts.

The Delray Beach Soccer Club, sanctioned by U.S. Club Soccer will be overseen by directors of coaching, Tony Stevens and Ian Bishop. Stevens is an USSF A licensed coach who has worked

with and studied coaches from all over the world and combines the best of their methods with his own special style. Ian "Bish" Bishop is a former professional footballer for 23 years who has made over 700 appearances in the English Leagues.

The teams of Delray Beach Competitive Soccer will be made up of players who are seriously interested in quality soccer training at its finest and are totally committed and willing to invest time and hard work to improve their skills. Players will be selected on ability, desire, attitude and fitness.

Players selected at this tryout will play for teams who will begin training and playing in August 2007.

Fed Cup returns to Delray Beach in April

In 2005, the women's Fed Cup Quarter Finals were held in Delray Beach for the first time featuring Venus and Serena Williams.

The USTA (United States Tennis Association) has selected Delray Beach in 2007 to host the Fed Cup once again and both Venus and Serena Williams

will anchor the United States Team versus Belgium again. Zina Garrison, U.S. Fed Cup Team Captain, is excited about returning to the enthusiastic crowds that fill the Delray Beach Stadium & Tennis Center.

She said, "We expect to field a very strong team and have our sights on winning the Fed Cup title this year." Sabine Appelmans has been appointed Fed Cup Captain for Belgium and as a previous player, has an impressive record in Fed Cup competition.

The City of Delray Beach hosted sell-out matches for the last U.S. Fed Cup home quarter-finals in 2005 as well as the men's Davis Cup Quarter Finals versus Sweden in 2004. Fed Cup, sponsored by BNP Paribas, is the world's largest annual international team competition with 89 countries competing this year.

Tickets for the two-day (April 21-22), best-of-five match series are on sale now and can be purchased by calling (888) 334-USTA (8782).

Tickets are sold as a two-day series with prices ranging from \$35 to \$225, with VIP packages available.

For more information, please call (914) 696-7000 or visit www.usta.com.

Lynn's Brandt is SSC Golfer of the Week

Lynn University women's golfer Elise Brandt was named Sunshine State Conference Golfer of the Week after helping her team to a second place finish and earning a tie for seventh at the Springlake Invitational. This is her first SSC Weekly honor.

Brandt set a new personal best in a 36-hole tournament by firing a 148.

It marked the fourth consecutive event she has finished in the top-10. She also tied her career-low round with a 71 on the first day.

Brandt has been instrumental in the Fighting Knights finishing second over the last two tournaments as she has recorded a 74.2 stroke average in the spring, two strokes less than her fall average.

The Fighting Knights are participating in the Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational hosted by Rollins College.

Former Stallion named Player of the Week

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Former American Heritage-Delray baseball player Perry Silverman was named the Metro Athletic Conference Rookie of the Week in late February.

Silverman, a freshman outfielder at Canisius College, posted a .318 batting average with four runs scored a double and an RBI. Silverman went 5-for-12 in a three-game series at then 20th-ranked Alabama, including a 3-for-4 performance in the final game of the series.

Silverman went 2-for-4 with a could be and an RBI in the first of a three-game series at Gardner-Webb. Silverman posted a .348 on-base percentage in the six games.

Bucky Dent Spring Break Camps ongoing

Bucky Dent Spring Break camps began March 11 and run through and include the week of April 15.

Camps are at 490 Dotterel Road in Delray Beach, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 7-18.

Lunch is included. Visit www.buckydentbaseballschool.com for more information.

Schlesinger signs with Dolphins

Fullback Cory Schlesinger signed a two-year contract with the Miami Dolphins Thursday after being an unrestricted free agent with the Detroit Lions.

Schlesinger is a 12-year NFL veteran who has started 87 games.

He has rushed for 473 yards and five touchdowns on 167 attempts and caught 197 passes for 1,445 yards and nine scores.

The Lions have had seven different individual 1,000-yard rushing seasons with Schlesinger playing fullback.

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- Tile from \$4.79 sq. ft.*

*Complete installation with material, labor and new baseboards

The Best Kitchen Cabinets

- Armstrong Kitchens • Kraftmaid Kitchens

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Carnival Market
 5283 W Atlantic Ave.
 Delray Beach, FL 33484