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**EXECUTIVE ESTATE  Must See!!**
- 19 Acres, Ocean View, Waterfalls
- In Platanillo, Built to U.S. standards
- High end finishings, Wolf, Kohler, Kraus
- Single Story 5000 sq. ft. luxury home
- $375,000

**PERFECT FAMILY HOME!!**
- Located in the hills near Palo Seco beach
- 3 bed 3 bath, extra 1.25 acre lot included
- Home automation, multi-tiered security
- Recently renovated inside and outside
- $432,000

---

**Exclusive Listings**

**Just Listed!!**

"Developer Ready 170 Acres"
- Next to Matapalo beach
- Clean fields and forested land
- Potential for Resort, Housing project, Private Reserve, Golf course
- $1,495,000

**Seaside Matapalo**

**5 bdrm, 3 bath Equestrian Estate**
- $495,000

**170 Acres**

**2 bdrm, 2 bath, 1.5 Acre huge flat lot, matured fruit trees in Villa Nueva $169,000**

**2 Bedroom, Huge lot Near Matapalo Beach $229,000**

---

**Attention Developers !!!**
Several mid to large developments available throughout the Central and Pacific zone.
WhatsApp/Call me for details

MELISSA KLASSEN  melissapuravida@gmail.com
Call or WhatsApp me @ +506 8822 0009
Exclusive Listings

Dear Melissa,

Thank you for all of your help and assistance in the recent real estate transactions. The level of concern and assistance you provided far exceeded the requirement to “sell”. We are very appreciative that you took the time and effort to get to know us and what our needs/wants were.

The level of service provided to make us feel welcome, informed, and accepted in Costa Rica, far exceeded our expectations, and made us very comfortable making this kind of purchase in a country we did not know.

Thank You,
Craig & Cola

Featured in Architectural Magazine
Ocean View, Modern Design
4 bdrm/4 bath, elevator, 10 Acres!
$1,249,000

MELISSA KLASSEN
WhatsApp +506 8882 0009
melissapuravida@gmail.com

"Two Homes"

- 1.53 Acres
- 5 Bedrooms total
- Rent one, live in other
- Serene setting
- $449,000

7-Bedrooms
Ocean View, Manuel Antonio
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Privacy with mountain nature view
Perfect, couple home, pool
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8-BEDROOMS!!!
Ocean View
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$750,000

Ocean View Property
74 stunning ACRES!
20 minutes from Quepos
make this your private reserve!

All for $379,000!!!
Bienvenidos... Welcome to the rainforest. Green season has arrived, so enjoy the peace and all the lushness it provides. Our mornings are normally sunny and beautiful and the rain rolls through late in the afternoon. So, get out early and enjoy your adventures and get a late afternoon nap or massage. Our restaurants and tour companies are in full swing to make your stay here an unforgettable one. Without the crowds and with cooler weather it’s a perfect time to hike one of our beautiful National Parks that Costa Rica has to offer. We recommend calling ahead to our fine restaurants beforehand because some will be closed briefly this time of year for a quick vacation for themselves and their staff.

Marina Pez Vela keeps the action going with one of the best fleets of boats to experience the migration of humpback whales that vacation here just off shore this time of year (Brisa Elegante and Sunset Sails). The sportfishing is spectacular as well (Jackpot Sportfishing and JP Sportfishing). October 31 is Halloween and MPV Annual Halloween Bash will be handing out candy for the kids, a masquerade show and restaurant specials. Always a great time for the entire family. So start thinking of your costume and enjoy fright night in the jungle.

Costa Rica celebrates its 201st year of Independence on September 15th. So get out and celebrate with a country that truly appreciate their freedom. VIVA COSTA RICA!!!

We want to thank and welcome to our pages APE, Falafel Bar, Hacienda Mil Bellezas, and Phelipe’s.

September/October is a double month issue so we will be back to guide you in November. We hope you enjoy our magazine and it helps guide you through this enchanting paradise we call home. You can always follow and share us at Quepolandia.com or on Facebook/Quepolandia. We appreciate and welcome your comments.

Peace and Enjoy...D
CUSTOM FABRICATION
Our In-house Fabrication Team is one of the BEST in Costa Rica. From Custom Metal Bumpers to Roof Baskets.

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Brisa Elegante is the wooden sail cruiser in Marina Pez Vela in Quepos. She has become the landmark of the marina. It is an impressive sight when she enters the marina after sunset.

Hearing of Brisa Elegante's heritage from Fethiye, Turkey, our guests regularly ask us how Brisa Elegante came to Costa Rica. Well, here is the whole story.

After her completion and initial operation in Turkey, she sailed from Fethiye from east to west through the Mediterranean and past Gibraltar to the Canary Islands. She crossed the Atlantic Ocean to St. Lucia in the Caribbean and sailed to her new home in St. Augustine FL, USA. This whole journey took her three months and has proven one thing—she is seaworthy!

During the passage between Cuba and Haiti, Brisa Elegante got hit by short and high waves, rocking the boat quite hard. She remained unimpressed, having seen rougher seas and stronger winds, but not so the crew! The course was set to Jamaica to seek shelter until the seas would calm down. The Jamaican authorities allowed us into the bay of Port Antonio. As everything was under lock-down, we were only permitted to refuel and stock up our provisions. The crew enjoyed their first night of good sleep and excellent reggae music coming from the shore. After five days of waiting and some maintenance work, the sea calmed down, and the journey to Panama could be resumed. Constant wind and currents helped Brisa Elegante to reach the breakwaters of Colon in less than three days. The crew could set foot on land in the Shelter Bay Marina—that felt great!

Shelter Bay Marina is an exceptional place. It’s mostly sailors planning to cross the Panama Canal for a circumnavigation meet there. The evenings at the bar in the marina are unique; there are few places around the world like this. We could witness the 50th anniversary of a Panamanian marine vessel next to us and our crew was invited to join the celebration. In the following, some senior officers from Panama returned their visit to Brisa Elegante.

The passage through the Canal was a story in itself. We had thunderstorms and gusty wind but passed through safely after 30 hours. Without stopping in Panama City, we sailed north to our next port of call, Golfito in Costa Rica! It was a great feeling to be home again and meet family and friends. The whole journey from taking over the vessel to the arrival in Golfito took two months. These were exciting, exceptional, and adventurous two months, bonding the crew together. Ask them when you meet them aboard Brisa Elegante during your next visit.
bamboo structures alongside bamboo architects, participating in regenerative permaculture and eco-engineering workshops, leading the marketing and fundraising, to actual construction, the children are full participants in the process of creating their future learning environment.

Inspired by the Bali Green School architecture and principles of regenerative, holistic education, The Village at Life Project Education is an ambitious, multi-phase community project. The student-conceived campus will serve as both an alternative learning campus for 120+ local and international middle and high school students, and a dynamic community center offering a community garden, an iconic movement and performing temple, 6 sustainably-constructed classrooms, a media & research center, amphitheater, communal kitchen, ninja obstacle course, and multiple chill-out spaces designed by the students themselves. The Village students will additionally maintain access to the existing main campus swimming pool, art studio, greenhouse (vivero), woodworking studio, and animal farm.

In 2015, Life Project Education emerged as an experimental homeschool project, a seedling in a modest 2-bedroom, one-bathroom rental home in Manuel Antonio. Four years later, seeking permanent roots, founder Alys Jasmine Robinson relocated to an expansive 16-bedroom, 16-bathroom dream estate where her once intimate project is now a blooming, vibrant alternative educational initiative serving 70 students.

New branches of this tree of learning continue to grow like the young minds it nurtures. Once an offering for ages 5-9, Life Project now offers preschool, prekindergarten, elementary education, and the current Upper Years children (ages 11-13) are co-creating their future secondary education campus, a collaborative project called “The Village”. Projected to start construction in December 2022, the Village at Life Project Education will accommodate adolescents through 12th grade.

As community development and authentic project-based learning are the driving pedagogies of Life Project Education, the elder children have participated in every step of the middle & high school expansion. From unrestricted envisioning of their dream campus, to rendering realistic 2-dimensional master plans, creating 3-dimensional models of the community space intends to additionally offer weekend markets, concerts, festivals, ecstatic dance, after-school experiences, camps, and community workshops, with the overarching intention to bring together local & international adolescents, children, educators, families, neighbors, and travelers to enjoy this multipurpose space. The expansion is projected to attract both international and local families within the southern zone who seek a less traditional, community-based approach to education.

Life Project Education will host an inaugural fundraising and Open House event on September 24th from 1-4 pm. If you wish to learn more or to explore opportunities to enroll, teach, or invest within our growing project, Life Project Education welcomes inquiries to info@lifeprojecteducation.org.

We invite our community to schedule a visit with us any time, and come experience how this tender seed, planted eight years ago, has sprouted into a prolific flowering tree, with even more abundant growth on the horizon!
Private Jungle Horseback Tour
Come with us on a spectacular ride through the jungle, along small trails and the remote river pond at our private rain forest reserve!

We start at 9:00 am and will be back at 11:30 am.
Private tours every day. Kids are very welcome!

1-2 People: 150 USD total, every extra person 75 USD, max. 4 people.
Please note that we apply strict weight limit of 225 lbs or 104 kg for the horse’s sake.

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info@haciendamilbellezas.com

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San Antonio de Damas - Quepos - Costa Rica

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Welcome to the September & October edition of That’s Fishin! What a great year of fishing it has been so far, visitor numbers have been fantastic this year and the Quepos Charter fleet have been kept busy on the water taking our visitors from around the world fishing in search of those dream catches.

OFFSHORE FISHING

We enjoyed some truly epic fishing during August. The Sailfish bite popped up a few times and provided some fantastic fishing when the fish were found. The 31 foot BUCKETLIST released 12 Sailfish on a single day charter which was fantastic numbers for the time. The Sailfish bite popped up a few times and provided some fantastic fishing when the fish were found. The bite is on. If epic Blue Marlin fishing is on your Bucketlist, this is the trip for you and just drop me a line for more info.

August produced some really solid Yellowfin Tuna with many fish in the 30-50lb range and some 100lb plus fish landed too. Congrats to our good friend Blake Stevenson from South Carolina who has been fishing aboard my boat GOOD DAY with Capt. Manuel Gabuardi for 18 years now. He had a blast on August 6th when he landed a Tuna in the 90-100lb range plus several more up to 50lbs.

Some nice Wahoo have been present over the Offshore reefs and there has been some good Dorado fishing too with good numbers of small to mid-sized fish and the odd 30-50lb Bull Dorado— all in a days work which was one epic day for sure!

The larger boats in the fleet such as THE SPORTSMAN, THE HOOKER, & HOG WILD have been fishing at this time of year and there will be fishing with me aboard GOOD DAY for Dorado Derby 1, wish us luck in catching the BIG ONE!

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Let us inspire you!
The whales have arrived to Quepos with the arrival of August, the whale watching season officially begins in our country. This is how the coast of Quepos becomes the ideal setting for tourists to enjoy this impressive and wonderful spectacle of nature.

The visiting season for these marine mammals, which ends in the month of October, is even more pleasant to enjoy thanks to the packages designed by Marina Pez Vela, which adjust to all budgets, tastes and tourists needs.

Because it is one of the most sought-after shows by tourists during these dates, it is very important to reserve the tour by calling 2774-9006 and 2774-9010. Consider that the prices of the different tours are valid for nationals and residents until October 16 and include taxes. In addition, there is also the option of packages with lodging. For more information go to marinapezvela.com.
Jack Ewing was born and educated in Colorado. In 1970 he and his wife Diane moved to the jungles of Costa Rica where they raised two children, Natalie and Chris. A newfound fascination with the rainforest was responsible for his transformation from cattle rancher into environmentalist and naturalist. His many years of living in the rainforest have rendered a multitude of personal experiences, many of which are recounted in his published collection of essays, Monkeys are Made of Chocolate. His latest book is, Where Jaguars & Tapirs Once Roamed: Ever-evolving Costa Rica.

The problem with fossil fuels is that they put carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into our atmosphere. To be clear, I am talking only about new carbon, not what is already on the surface of the planet, in the atmosphere, the biomass or the soil. Carbon is only detrimental when you bring it up from deep within the earth and add it to the carbon that is already here. That's why biofuel is considered to be an environmentally friendly source of renewable energy. It is derived from carbon, that is already available and doesn't add any new carbon to the atmosphere.

Ethanol, with a few simple modifications to your engine, can be substituted for gasoline. It can be derived from many raw materials but is usually produced from corn or sugarcane. Since the carbon contained in corn and sugarcane is already here and available, ethanol doesn't add any new carbon to the atmosphere. Plant fiber is made up primarily of carbon; so, to grow and produce biofuel these plants need to acquire carbon from their environment. A carbon dioxide molecule is composed of one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms (CO2). The green stuff in the leaves of growing plants is called chlorophyll. The plants get their carbon through a process called photosynthesis which involves sunlight, chlorophyll, and atmospheric CO2. In greatly simplified terms, the plant captures the carbon dioxide molecule from the air, keeps the carbon atom and uses it to build fiber for its own structure, and releases the two oxygen atoms into the atmosphere. When the corn or sugarcane plant is ready, we take it and turn it into ethanol. Cool, right? We get fuel for our cars and trucks and, at the same time enrich the earth's atmosphere with oxygen. Well, not exactly. I must confess that I left out a few steps. Let's have a look at how corn and sugarcane are grown.

Many years ago, when I was still living in Colorado, my dad had a farm where he grew corn in rotation with other crops, and where he often put me to work. That has been more than 50 years ago and is the extent of my personal experience with farming corn. I have zero experience with farming sugarcane, so let's talk about corn. There are certain basic things than haven't changed. To begin with the land must be prepared using a tractor with a plow and/or a disc, and sometimes a large rake. Then the corn is planted using a machine called a planter that is pulled behind a tractor. Later herbicides and insecticides, to eliminate weeds and insects, are applied. This is done with a sprayer mounted on the back of a tractor. Once the corn is ready it must be harvested by a huge, self-propelled machine called a harvester, and a truck, or a tractor pulling a trailer must move along behind the harvester to catch the corn. The next step is to transport the corn in trucks to the processing plant where it converted into biofuel, usually ethanol, which then needs to be transported in tanker trucks to the service station where you can buy it for your car and drive down the road happy that the fuel you are burning is environmentally friendly. Are you starting to get the picture? All that machinery used to grow, transport, and process the corn and get the biofuel to the consumer runs on fossil fuels which, of course, add greenhouse gases to our atmosphere. To calculate how much fossil fuel needs to be burned to produce one gallon of ethanol is beyond my meager mathematical ability. But I have seen a wide range of estimates by scientists who are better mathematicians than I. We can safely say that it takes at least 25 percent more fossil fuel to produce the biofuel than the clean energy we get out of the biofuel, and likely more than 100 percent. In other words, it takes at least a gallon and a quarter and very possibly more than two gallons of fossil fuel to produce one gallon of ethanol. That is the downside to biofuels, and it is a pretty big one.

The concept of biofuels reminds me of a perpetual motion machine. For those of you who haven't heard of a perpetual motion machine, it has a wheel that is attached to a generator. You give the wheel a spin, and it starts generating electricity that runs a motor that turns the wheel. And it just keeps turning forever, or until the machine wears out. Great idea. But it doesn't work.

Jack Ewing was born and educated in Colorado. In 1970 he and his wife Diane moved to the jungles of Costa Rica where they raised two children, Natalie and Chris. A newfound fascination with the rainforest was responsible for his transformation from cattle rancher into environmentalist and naturalist. His many years of living in the rainforest have rendered a multitude of personal experiences, many of which are recounted in his published collection of essays, Monkeys are Made of Chocolate. His latest book is, Where Jaguars & Tapirs Once Roamed: Ever-evolving Costa Rica.
Superlativos absolutos irregulares

Los superlativos se usan para destacar una característica al máximo de alguien o de algo. Estos pueden ser de dos tipos: absolutos (destacamos algo sin compararlo con otra cosa) y relativos (destacamos algo dentro de un grupo). En esta ocasión hablaremos en detalle sobre los superlativos absolutos irregulares.

Superlativos absolutos irregulares con 2 superlativos

1. Adjetivos que en su penúltima sílaba tienen -UE y cambia a -E y adjetivos que en su penúltima sílaba tienen -IE y cambia a -E.

Por ejemplo:
- bueno -> bonísimo / buenísimo
- terrible -> terriblemente
- caliente -> calentísimo / calentísimo
- fuerte -> fortísimo / fuertísimo

2. Adjetivos que tienen un cambio de raíz irregular.

Por ejemplo:
- amigo -> amigísimo / amigísimo
- cruel -> cruelísimo / cruelísimo
- simple -> simplísimo / simplísimo

Superlativos absolutos irregulares con 1 superlativo

Son poco usados en la lengua oral, es más común muy + adjetivo

1. Adjetivos que tienen cambio de raíz irregular.

Por ejemplo:
- antiguo -> antiquísimo
- viejo -> viejísimo
- sabio -> sapiéntísimo

2. Con -E en la última sílaba + érrimo(a)s

Por ejemplo:
- sencillo -> sencillísimo
- crecido -> crecidoísimo
- liso -> lisísimo
- misero -> misérrimo

Superlativos con prefijo

Podemos formar superlativos añadiendo los prefijos: super-, extra-, ultra-, archi-, mega-, hiper

Recuerde que los prefijos se escribe siempre unidos a la palabra.
- famoso -> famérrimo
- conocido -> conocidoísimo
- activo -> hiperactivo
- sensible -> ultra sensible

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Superlativos especiales

Son relacionados con el adjetivo original y solo se usan en algunos contextos.

Por ejemplo:
- bueno - bien -> bonísimo / buenísimo / óptimo
- malo - mal -> malísimo / pésimo
- grande - gran -> grandísimo / máximo
- pequeño - pequeño -> pequeñísimo / mínimo

Observe bien las siguientes imágenes y haga oraciones usando adjetivos superlativos irregulares.

Por ejemplo:

1. Lucía hoy viste super elegante.

5. ____________________________

2. ____________________________

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3. ____________________________

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4. ____________________________

8. ____________________________
When birding Costa Rica, if you see a small group of dark birds in flight that resemble “winter finches”, you have seen Bronzed Cowbirds. Their dumpy body and shortish bill, gives them this finch-like appearance. When seen close up, they look kind of cool with that red eye.

They forage in flocks, mostly on the ground, searching for seeds, grains, and insects. Males perform a remarkable “helicopter” display to females. Both sexes search for orioles and other birds in the process of building nests; the female stealthily lays eggs in other birds’ nests.
French Onion Soup

With these few details, you will have a complex layering of flavors and the ultimate bowl of comfort worthy of any French chef.

Ingredients for 4 servings

- 1 liter of stock, traditionally beef but a rich vegetable stock is great too
- 6 medium yellow onions thinly sliced
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons of butter
- 1 dash of nutmeg
- 1 dash of thyme
- 1 bay leaf
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons of brandy or vermouth or white wine
- 8 thin slices of toasted French baguette
- 4 to 6 slices of Swiss cheese like Gruyere, Emmenthaler, or Baby Swiss

Directions

1. Slowly caramelize the onions in the olive oil for about 20 minutes until it reaches a deep brown color.
2. Deglaze the pan with the brandy and then add the stock and seasonings.
3. Let simmer for 10 to 15 minutes and then discard the bay leaf.

To assemble in bowls

Ladle the soup into heat proof bowls, top with 2 bread slices per bowl, distribute the cheese on top of floating bread slices and place under broiler for 5 to 10 minutes until the cheese is brown and bubbly. Allow to cool very slightly before serving.
Second, KSTR has formally changed hands to two incredible conservationists, who are excited to usher in a new era for the organization. I spent a lot of time with Gabe, one of the new owners, who has an amazing vision for increasing the reach and impact of KSTR. He wants to focus on building a new state-of-the-art animal hospital, more marine wildlife rescues, and MORE KIDS! We’re going to be adding additional spokeskids (who you’ll be hearing from here in the future), and raising money for more exciting projects to rescue more animals. Luckily, the old owners are still involved at KSTR and helping out with the transition—I love them so much so I am glad we can continue to work together to help the amazing animals in Costa Rica!

Did you see the architectural plans for the new hospital at Monkey Jam? So cool. I am especially excited about the new animal hospital project, as I got to see so many rescues during the month and half I was there, and the importance of the community working together to save these animals. For example, we rescued a Sea Turtle last month! She was found on Isla Damas in distress, and with community support and expert veterinary care, she got better and we were able to release her back into the ocean!

I love the idea of bringing our community together to help the animals—during the Sea Turtle rescue, we worked with the good folks at Marine Conservation Costa Rica (who help plant new Coral where our oceans need it). They dove and brought fresh natural seaweed that our Sea Turtle needed to eat while recovering at the Sanctuary! It also reminded me of Milo from Isla Damas Turtle Rescue, who helps protect turtle eggs and make sure the new hatchlings make it safely into the ocean.

I can’t wait to tell you more about our new projects and animal rescues next month. If you want to help to make the new hospital a reality, please go to kidssavingtherainforest.org.

First, a huge thanks to everyone who came to Monkey Jam. We had 250+ attendees (the biggest party), lots of fantastic, home-cooked Costa Rican food, and great bands and music. It was nice to see the community connect, all the new improvements to the sanctuary, and have everyone meet the animals, I heard interesting discussions about recycling programs, new hotel owners learning about the services KSTR offers (from an injured sloth to a snake on the loose)—and lots of amazing stories about the animals KSTR has saved :) Someone shared such a great story about sponsoring a wildlife bridge on their street and how it made them feel happy every time they saw monkeys crossing. Even a kinkajou family is using it to safely make it across the road with their baby.

It’s Dani, your KSTR spokeskid! I just got done spending several weeks in Manuel Antonio volunteering at KSTR, and I have a TON of exciting updates to share!
WHERE FUN STARTS

marinapezvela.com
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ACROSS
1. Small drum
6. Small island
10. Spouse
14. Bay window
15. Half-moon tide
16. Frozen
17. A pinnacle of ice
18. Against
19. Novice
20. Severe
22. Burrowing marine mollusk
23. Before, poetically
24. Kind of alcohol
26. Wound
30. Poison plant
32. Child of a male horse and female donkey
33. Besmirech
37. Away from the wind
38. Relating to a city
39. Emanation
40. 19th century riding coat
42. Later
43. Primp
44. Votes that block a decision
45. A type of dance
46. Coniferous tree
48. Relating to aircraft
49. Fully and exclusively control
56. Remain
57. Black, in poetry
58. Oren skin infections
59. Head
60. Part of a plant
61. Sea
62. Sleigh
63. Cravings
64. Fine thread

DOWN
1. Nonsense (British)
2. Region
3. Ethiopian monetary unit
4. Its symbol is Pb
5. A pseudoscientific absurd
6. Absurd
7. Transmit
8. Tardy
9. Outbreak
10. Sorcery
11. In a cold manner
12. Not domesticated
13. Biblical kingdom
21. Genus of macaws
25. Children's game
26. Part of a comparison
27. Anger
28. Again
29. Jobless
30. One more than 6
31. Module
33. Water barrier
34. Car
35. Tall woody plant
36. Hearing organs
38. Dairy
41. Biblical boat
42. Atomizer
44. Very Important Person
45. Floral leaf
46. Give a speech
47. Typefaces
48. Vipers
50. Double-reed wind instrument
51. Midday
52. Hubs
53. Angers
54. Ardor
55. Feudal worker
56. Gossamer
58. Seed-bearing capsule
59. Parental brother
60. Coffee dispensers
61. Articulates
62. S-shaped moldings
63. Zero

ACROSS
1. Historical periods
5. Concur
10. Vipers
14. Tracks
15. Water soaked soils
16. Gush
17. Bowels
19. Former Italian currency
20. Spy agency
21. Parental sisters
22. Install (2 words)
23. Circus performer
25. Stealer
27. Website address
28. Falling as drops
31. Produce a literary work
34. Young horses
35. Cavair
36. Anagram of "Silos"
37. On the up and up
38. Left
39. L
40. Femme fatale
41. Flower jars
42. How a snake moves
44. Cacophony
45. Hag
46. Female
50. A nymph of lakes
52. Believe in
54. Slime
55. Against
56. Gossamer
58. Seed-bearing capsule
59. Parental brother
60. Coffee dispensers
61. Articulates
62. S-shaped moldings
63. Zero

DOWN
1. Genus of health
17. A
18. A fencing sword
22. Tastes
23. Fragrant oil
24. In baseball, 3 per inning
25. True
26. Sword handle
28. Judges
29. Not a single one
30. Obtains
31. Troubles
32. Small brook
33. Illegally
34. Persistent
35. Dash
36. Twosome
37. Mortgage
38. Desire
40. Not barefoot
41. Panorama
43. Paths
44. Plates
46. Double
47. Ancient Greek marketplace
48. Discovered
49. Celot-like
50. Approaches
51. Dwarf buffalo
55. Dash
57. Religious sister

Crossword Solution 1 on Page 57
Crossword Solution 2 on Page 57
It has been 26 years since I first visited Costa Rica. I had been surfing in Cocoa Beach, Florida and was ready to take on some larger swells. I flew down with my friend Ron and we rented an SUV with U-haul Car Rental (the name sounded respectable). Our first stop was the Caribbean coast.

We made it to Puerto Viejo and ran into Johnny Futch who had been an expat in Costa Rica for many years. He showed us how to get out at Salsa Brava and helped us find a boat to Isla Uvita. Hurricane Cesar just passed through and the Caribbean Sea was filled with small branches and wrack from the storm. We were nervous about the boat driver as he had two sea turtles tied upside down in his shed and he dropped us off in the middle of nowhere with giant tankers passing by. The waves were way bigger than I had ever surfed and we were lucky to make it back alive, as the captain used the swell to ride right over the shallow reef back to shore.

Our next stop was back to San Jose and we drove up to the top of Volcan Irazu. It was so cold at the summit that I had on every piece of clothing I brought for the trip. And on the way down our rental skidded off the slippery road and we almost tumbled 7000 feet in to a ravine. One small tree saved us from certain death, and within minutes there were a dozen locals and two tractors that showed up to pull us back on to the road. Luckily we only had two small dents in the vehicle, but those dents ended up costing us $1,100 in damages (U-haul turned out to be a poor choice of rental company – and ultimately led me to becoming a travel advisor – to help others avoid poor rental car decisions).

From Irazu we drove to La Fortuna and we ran into a group of Ecology students from a college near our hometown. Since Ron was friends with some of them, we partied with the group while watching the Arenal Volcano spill lava down its sides, lighting up a patch of previously untouched forest like matchsticks. It turned out we would see this group again in Manuel Antonio.

After a few nights in La Fortuna, we drove down to Dominical, but due to the poor condition of the coastal highway at the time it took forever to get there. The waves were giant and stormy, and we caught it good only one morning when the winds and tide were just right. We had heard that the beaches were more protected up by Manuel Antonio so we drove back up the bumpy coastal road, crossing dozens of bridges made of nothing more than old iron railroad ties and planks of wood.

We stayed at a cabina located close to the surf break at Playitas. It had been raining frequently and the road down to the beach was often washed out so we ended up walking to the surf. Surprisingly we ran into the same group of students from Florida and ended up partying with them again. I remember skinny dipping at night with one woman who had a hurt leg, and thinking I may drown since I was trying to help her with chest high waves breaking over us. The guaro shots and Imperials I had drunk did not help either.

Overall, it was a trip of a lifetime and in those moments, I fell in love with Costa Rica - its natural beauty, amazing waves, and friendly locals. I knew that I wanted to move there and so planned to take a year’s leave of absence from teaching. I would learn Spanish, surf every day, and immerse myself in the culture, trying to find a way to stay as long as possible. But that is a story for another day.
### TIDES for SEPTEMBER 2022

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Luxury Bed Linens

The Big Expose

Shelagh Duncan

A Higher Thread Count Does Not Mean You Are Getting A Better Quality Sheet!

Can this be true? After all the hype and marketing we see about luxury bed linens, are the highest (1,000 thread count sheet sets no better than the 200TC ones we can buy at MaxiPali? Of course not—nothing is that simple, but it helps to know the facts and understand what the differences are, and that allows us to make informed decisions when buying our sheets.

The feeling that the rooms had been newly renovated, just by changing the bedding colour to white, guests had ‘sleeping well’ was the stated priority. Before that time hotels generally used coloured or patterned bedspreads because they were easier to keep clean and fresh, but it helps to know the facts and understand what the differences are, and that allows us to make informed decisions when buying our sheets.

The end result was that the guest felt the rooms with the all white bed, the ‘Heavenly Bed’ as it was marketed, offered a more luxurious experience. And that was where it all began. However, starting enough, the Westin Hotel Group was testing using sheets with a thread count of between 180 and 250, the same TC as you can get today at MaxiPali!

Things have come along since then of course, and higher and higher thread counts are available, so we are lead to believe that higher is better. Not true. The thread count, which is defined as the number of horizontal and vertical threads per square inch, is not the best way to judge the quality of your sheets. In fact there are many other things to consider, like the fibers used, their origin, and the type of weave.

The Fibers

The majority of fibers that make up sheets are cotton, and the longer fibers the better the sheet. We know that Egyptian Cotton sets the standard of excellence because it has long fibers and in that category, Giza 45 cotton is King. It has the longest, thinnest, and strongest of fibers, and when expertly woven produces a fabric far superior to any other. As expected it is also among the most expensive.

Longer fibers are ideal because when you spin the yarn, it gives it maximum strength and a softer feel. Shorter fibers can break and feel itchy or even pill—the endings become tangled and form those annoying tiny knots.

Other high quality fiber options to look for are pima and supima, organic cotton, cotton-poplin, cotton-polyester, and even bamboo, and each type of fiber will have a different feel. Cotton, bamboo, and other natural materials breathe and help keep us cool. Synthetic materials like polyester and microfiber do not but they are durable. Blending the natural and synthetic properties in bed sheets help us get the best of both worlds, while keeping costs affordable.

The Weave

Different weaves change the way a sheet feels against your skin. A percale weave is a closely woven plain weave, the classic over-and-under weave using spun fabric made from both twisted and combed yarns. This makes a sheet feel light, crisp, and cool. Percale sheeting is regarded as the finest available.

Sateen is weave construction that has more yarn surface on the face of the cloth than other basic weaves because it floats the thread over several rows at a time. This gives a softer and more lustrous look resembling satin.

So, which is better? Cotton sateen sheets are frequently softer than those with a Percale weave because a sateen weave has more warp threads on the surface. As to which is better there is no answer as it’s a matter of personal taste. Some people prefer the smoothness of the sateen weave, and others like the crispness of a percale weave, and that is the cooler fabric for our climate.

The weave will not affect the way a sheet feels, but also the way it looks, its longevity, and its price.

Not all thread counts are created equal.

In an interview with New York Magazine, Anh Duong, a textile buyer for Gracious Home, said “I can guarantee a 200 thread count from Italy is better quality than a 1,000 thread count from Pakistan”. French and Italy are regarded as some of the finest sheet makers in the business, but even though the fiber they use isn’t always from those particular countries (such as Egyptian cotton). As a general rule, buy a minimum 200-thread count sheet, and know that anything over an 500-thread count really doesn’t matter. Remember, as in everything, price and quality definitely go together—so get what you pay for.

Now you are ready to create your own ‘Heavenly Bed’ look at home! We spend up to 30% of our lives in bed so make it a wonderful experience.

Sweet dreams!

Until next time,

Shelagh, Royal Palm Interiors

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I've been driving in Costa Rica since 2002, legally. My first wife at that time owned a red Hyundai Excel. It is still a popular model of the "pirate" taxis on our streets today. If you ask an older local, that car (nicknamed the Red Rocket) has legendary status. I can't remember most of the stories but that's not what this month's article is about. This month we explore the mythical subject of the turning signal (which comes standard and free in every vehicle these days). Yes indeed the infamous "blinker." That little bar conveniently engineered under the steering wheel and slightly to the left. Ah yes...you remember! You see, nobody uses that in Costa Rica except for me. I will admit I am a bit obsessed because I literally signal every time I turn left or right. If I'm doing something funky I know where the hazard lights are too. I've studied driving for over 30 years now. However my new attitude is to not care anymore...everything seems to be smooth without using it. Probably another useless invention. In fact, I'm going to stop using the signal all together because I want to be like the taxi drivers. It's all about standards. Drive like the pro's do. My research shows that as early as 1925 an invention was patented that allowed the driver to actually signal their intention to other drivers and pedestrians. To literally say, by the proper use of the directional, if the driver is turning left, right, or is making a move. Downright amazing if you ask me, but what do I know? At the time the big car manufacturers weren't interested, and I'm not interested now, who needs it? From there the history is irrelevant, do your own google search, my point being, why should anyone ever indicate the direction they honestly intend to go to in this life. Whether it is actually on the road, in everyday life, or personally...who knows? Shit happens. I have the right to change my mind is another logical excuse. Why signal, who can even multi-task like that anymore? Life is hard enough. Certainly texting while driving has priority.

It is my choice to be angry or not, for driving can be enraging or simply meditative. After all, it is only my opinion that there are drivers that cannot remember, or simply figure out, the up or down option of the turn signal, or they cannot be bothered or care to use the directional. It is an option for every driver, behind the wheel of a lethal automobile, to choose a selfish way of driving or not. I guess an invention almost 100 years old isn't THAT important, whatever. I'll try to join the club but it's harder and harder for me to handle as more people are on the road than ever before, sometimes I even have people ride my bumper, which is likewise a brilliant move but another article all together. I even heard that it is fairly easy to get a legal fake driver's license these days...perhaps that explains it. The trait of being courteous has behooved me my entire life, it was something my mother and father taught me (married 54 years now). I suppose they never implied it should be on our roadways, that is my doing. I often watch people while they are driving. The top three on the list, other than keeping one's eyes on the road, are cellular phone use, vanity in checking oneself out in the rear view or sun visor mirror, and lastly, smoking cigarettes/marijuana while driving. The eye can certainly wander off the road when a hot woman/man walks by too. All I'm saying is when in Rome, do as a Roman would do. I am driving, I am free, and I've earned the right to make up my own rules.

(Todd Pequeen is available for comments at his website massagetodd.com or simply by calling 8830-7727. However, he would prefer a call to book an amazing massage as he has been giving professional, knowledgeable and money worthy massages for 21 years. His free time is spent surfing, reading, writing, and studying his wife Sarah’s expert photography at sarahyunker.com.)
LADIES WHO LUNCH
The Monthly Ladies Luncheon has resumed. If you have not received a recent invite and would like to join us, please forward your e-mail to Julie at gemini0521@yahoo.com. Hope to see you at the next luncheon! Thank you kindly, Julie, Alma, & Ruth. LADIES Who Lunch Committee Members

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A curious child asked his mother: “Mommy, why are some of your hairs turning grey?”

The mother tried to use this occasion to teach her child: “It is because of you, dear. Every bad action of yours will turn one of my hairs grey!”

The child replied innocently: “Now I know why grandmother has only grey hairs on her head.”

A couple going on vacation but his wife was on a business trip so he went to the destination first and his wife would meet him the next day.

When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick email.

Unfortunately, when typing her address, he mistyped a letter and his note was directed instead to an elderly preacher’s wife whose husband had passed away only the day before.

When the grieving widow checked her email, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream, and fell to the floor in a dead faint.

At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

Dearest Wife,
Just got checked in. Everything prepared for your arrival tomorrow.
P.S. Sure is hot down here.

A couple, both age 78, went to a sex therapist’s office. The doctor asked, “What can I do for you?”

The man said, “Will you watch us have sex?”

The doctor looked puzzled, but agreed.

When the couple finished, the doctor said, “There’s nothing wrong with the way you have sex,” and charged them $50.

This happened several weeks in a row. The couple would make an appointment, have sex with no problems, pay the doctor, then leave.

Finally, the doctor asked, “Just exactly what are you trying to find out?”

“We’re not trying to find out anything,” the man replied.

“She’s married and we can’t go to her house. I’m married and we can’t go to my house. The Holiday Inn charges $90. The Hilton charges $108. We do it here for $50…and I get $43 back from Medicare.”

The class teacher asks students to name an animal that begins with an “E”. One boy says, “Elephant.”

Then the teacher asks for an animal that begins with a “T”. The same boy says, “Two elephants.”

The teacher sends the boy out of the class for bad behavior. After that she asks for an animal beginning with “M”.

The boy shouts from the other side of the wall: “Maybe an elephant!”

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7:30 P.M. Daily Español
CODA Mon., Weds. & Fri. 9:00 A.M.
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Sundays 9 am & 6 pm
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235 ACRES ONLY $2 PER SQUARE METER

Rio Seco, 60 Acres

An architectural masterpiece with a natural backdrop you could only dream of! This new 3 bedroom, 3 bath custom home sits on 60 acres of pristine land. The home combines a sleek modern design, and all the amenities you could dream of with a natural setting that is emblematic of Costa Rica, Marveld at the Panoramic 360 degree view of the Pacific Ocean, from the front of the home or enjoy a cup of costa rica coffee on your back porch with the Ria Chonta Mountain Range and Ruminante reserve as your backdrop.

20 MINUTES FROM QUEPOS 3,850 SQ. FT.

$699,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA Condo</td>
<td>Location! Location! Location! 2 Bedroom with 1 Bathroom Pool and BBQ Area</td>
<td>$135,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renovated Home in Quepos</td>
<td>Home is separated into 2 apartments. One with 3 bedrooms &amp; 2nd with 2 bedrooms. Off-street parking. Close to Marina.</td>
<td>$259,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Casa Milena</td>
<td>Outside Quepos Large 4 bed &amp; 2.5 bath home Plenty of storage, secure parking</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Popular Quepos Hotel</td>
<td>Best location in Town 14 Bedrooms Restaurant, Laundry, Pool, Reception. Walking distance to La Marina Pez Vela</td>
<td>$1,095,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzzy House</td>
<td>Located in Naranjito. 2 bedrooms/1 bathroom. 1.44 acres with 360 degree views.</td>
<td>$190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Lover's Dream Home</td>
<td>Ocean View Surrounded by Mountains 4 Beds and 4 Baths 7.5 Acres of Rainforest</td>
<td>$569,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean View Lot</td>
<td>Incredible Sunset Views Commercial or Residential 2500 sq. meters/over half an acre Perfect for 2 or 3 luxury Villas</td>
<td>$985,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home with 3 Acres</td>
<td>Casa Atlantis located in the Heart of Manuel Antonio. 2/3 main home and 2/1 guest house. Pool, Room to build cabins.</td>
<td>$885,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WWW.HIDDENBAYREALTY.CR**

**LICENCED BROKER WITH OVER 22 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN COSTA RICA**

**Downtown Quepos next to El Gran Escape Restaurant**

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