



JOLEE MAGAZINE  
180° FROM ORDINARY

# Jo Lee Magazine

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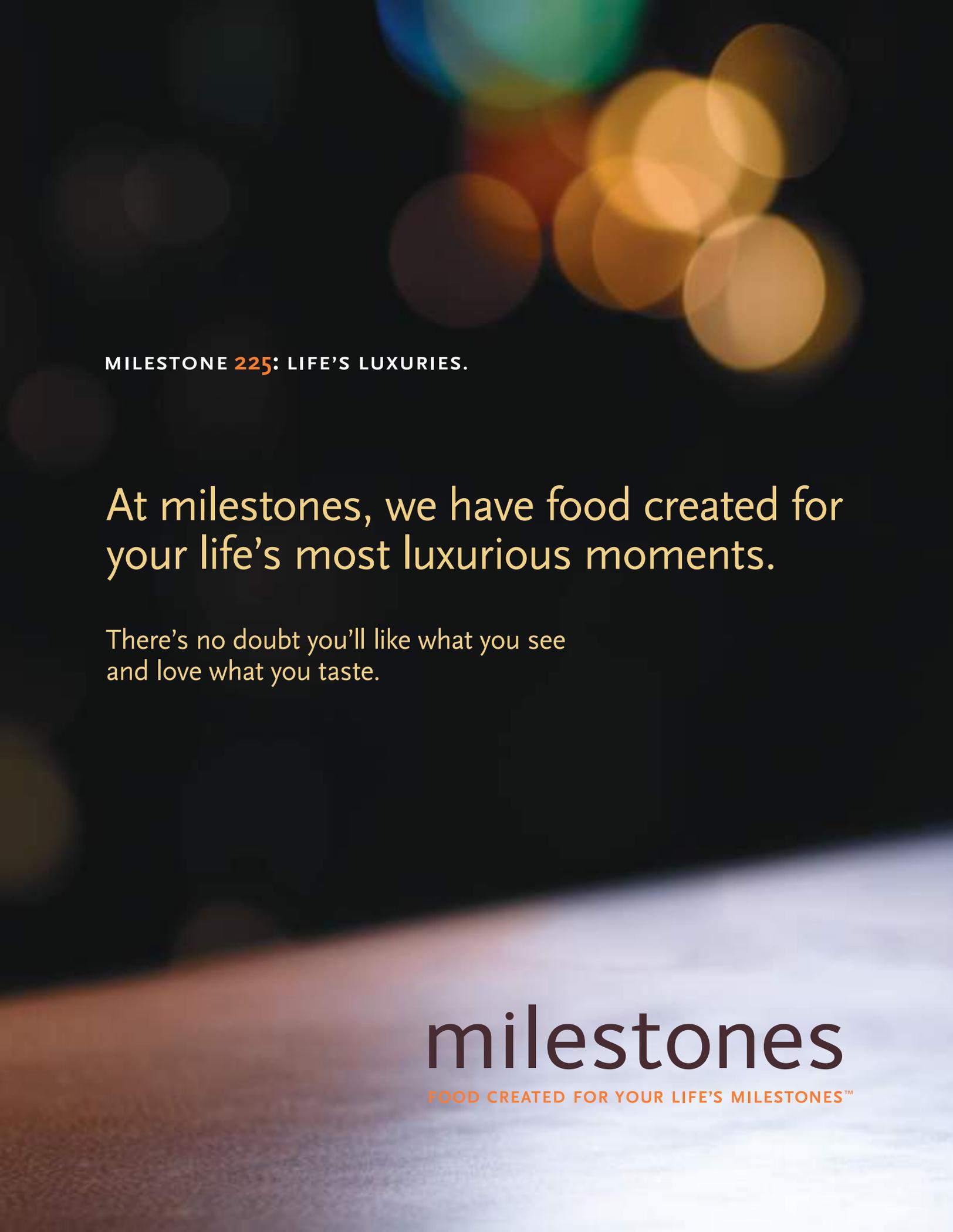
# World Luxury

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## *Dining With Josephina Lee*

BY JO LEE FOR JO LEE MAGAZINE  
NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO/HONG KONG/LONDON/TOKYO/ROME/TORONTO

Hello Dear Friends,

As I dash from city to continent to country, each day is exhilarating. My life: purposeful, challenging, busy and colorful. Meetings are timed, planes are coordinated, the plans are intricate. I wouldn't have it any other way. So when the opportunity comes to immerse my soul in yet another table setting, I'm delighted to "kick off my shoes" and entertain friends in a milieu meant to revitalize the spirit.

Won't you join me, my friends, as I take you to another of my glorious settings, a cool tonic for the soul.

Whether the subject is your patrician love of horses, the country, the arts, style, or the

vicissitudes of society, all things English, Italian, French and so on, all should be reflected around your dining table. How important it is to be on top of the situation, always a leader, always contributing your own imaginative, sensible point of view.

Perhaps "going back in years" we see a delightful family painting by a 19th-century American artist, that hangs above the very old, appointed armoire where one's many trophies are surrounded by desserts. Other trophies and wonderfully framed photographs sit on the the grand piano and the abundant coffee tables.

And so, if this were an evening "dining with Josephina Lee", I'd

have my table set for 10 on the beauty of the table, itself set with Haviland France Limoges china and engraved Italian crystal, with flowers everywhere.

The title of my country buffet would be: Orbiting Love. Ah, but to know the outcome of the day? Not until the orchids fold within the shadows of the night will the essence of the day be told.

Shall we say Buon Appetito e Saluti ... until we meet again?

ON THE COVER:

Jo Lee in the Chief Justice's Chair – Beijing, China. Digital Imaging by Julia Sera Viola.

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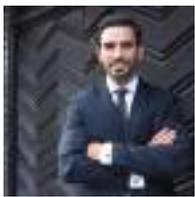
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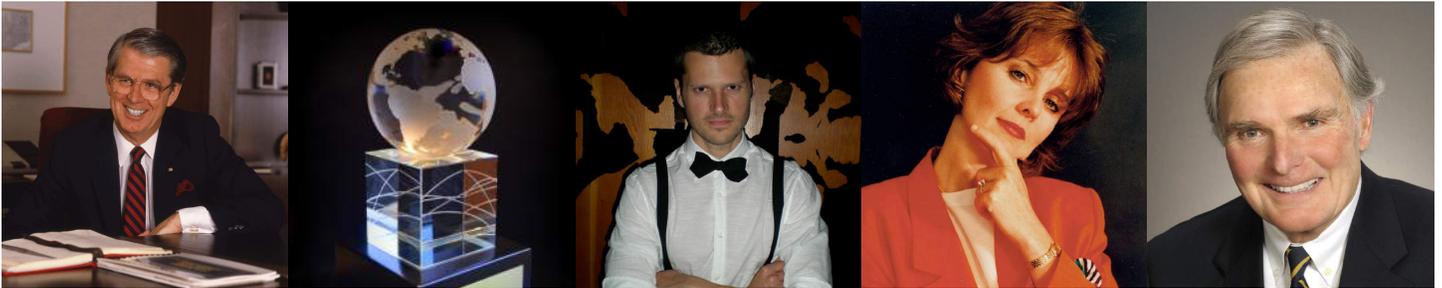


# Goya Move



An app for parents by parents. Goya-Move is designed to give your kids a technology time-out. Parents can set step goals, view what apps kids have installed, and set black out times.





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*Susan Berger*

### THE GROUP OF 16

Susan Berger, after a successful career in finance, embraced journalism as JO LEE Magazine's Marketing Editor and writer of The Group Of 16. Previously, Susan held

financial positions with major institutions including TD Financial Group and Alliance Atlantis Communications.

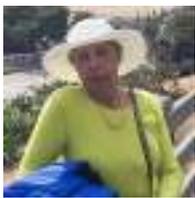


*Alan Briskin*

### SENSING THE UNSEEN

Alan Briskin is an author, artist, and pioneer in the field of organizational learning. His co-authored "The Power of Collective Wisdom" won the Nautilus Book Award in

Leadership. His work is distinguished by a grasp of unseen forces underlying our actions.



*Joan Chisholm*

### THE POET'S CORNER

Joan Chisholm's drive is being an example of how to live a life of excellence. Her book "Spirit Love", Barnes & Noble & Amazon websites, is a transcendental and practical memoir about fulfilling your life's dreams and passions.



*Stanley J. Dorst*

### PROS & EX.CONS

Stanley J. Dorst is a retired officer of Chevron Land Development Co. and CEO of Grosvenor Development Co. He's been advisor to European governments and

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Carla Dragnea is a Biologist whose interest in feature writing has encompassed 'the study of life'. In September, 2008, she was appointed Intellectual Advisor to the YES!

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Rose A. Dyson, EdD, media education consultant experienced in nursing psychiatry, psychology and the arts, is president of Canadians Concerned About

Violence in Entertainment. She was co-founder of the 1996 International Cultural Environment Movement, and serves on executive committees for Canadian Peace Research Association and World Federalists, Toronto Branch.



*Kelechi Eleanya*

### WHEN ANGELS CRY

Kelechi Eleanya is an economist and a committed development expert with the UNDP. He holds a degree in Renewable Natural Resources Management and a Master's in Forest Economics.

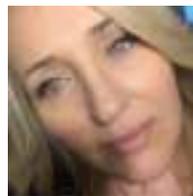


*Al Emid*

### THE GLAMOURS LIFE OF AN AUTHOR

Al Emid's career spans 50+ years in communicating ideas, concepts and information as a producer, broadcaster, and

as a journalist with bylines in various financial publications in several countries. In addition, Al has been a Business Studies Instructor at the community college level. In May 2019, we saw Al's latest eBook release on Volatility.



*Victoria Franciosa*

### MANSIONS & MILLIONAIRES VICTORIA

Franciosa's background in Art History has afforded her a unique approach to branding and advertising on the world stage. She is

one of the founding members of AmpedMediaStudios as well as founder and head designer of Bishop & Medusa.



*Lois M. Gordon*

### YES, VIRGINIA! COME – EXPLORE WITH ME

Lois M. Gordon is a world traveler and resides in California's Silicon Valley. She has spent her life as wife and mother, chairing several committees and indulging in her passion for reading and writing poetry.



*Farhad Nargol-O'Neill*

VARIED INFLUENCES

Farhad Nargol-O'Neill, self-taught in sculptural works in metal, has seen his work in private, public, diplomatic commissions, and exhibitions in many parts of the globe.

In 2014, Farhad began the five year design and carving, then casting, gilding and installation of the bas-reliefs (the complete Rosary story) for the Marian Doors now installed in the beautiful St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, in Toronto.



*Dr. Margaret R. O'Keefe Umanzio*

THE POET'S CORNER

Dr. Margaret R. O'Keefe Umanzio, Peggy, has been an advisor to CEOs and corporate executive teams. She was a cofounder of the

first fully-integrated alternative public school in the U.S., has lectured at Boston University as well as at Stanford, Berkeley and Tufts. She is currently writing a book titled Delivering on the Promise.



*H. Gail Regan*

THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK

Gail Regan is vice-chair of Cara Operations, retired. She chairs Energy Probe Research Foundation and is a member of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise.

She has a PhD in Educational Theory and an M.B.A. in Finance. Her background in sociology and personal experience of business has given her an intellectual interest in the problem of evil.



*Julie Reikai Rickerd*

THE PRIVATE MUSEUMS

Julie Reikai Rickerd is a travel and arts journalist who specializes in discovering private museums around the globe, finding many on each of the seven continents she

has visited. Antarctica being unlike any of the others. The entire continent is a fascinating private museum with the cleanest air on the face of the earth.



*Vera Resnik*

THE POET'S CORNER

Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Vera Resnik lost most of her family in the Holocaust. Her volunteer work in the New Jersey court system – as a conflict resolution

resource and advocate for children's rights – led to a court appointment to the child review committee. Today, Vera's writings are widely read.



*Mark Raynes Roberts*

THE RICH & THE FAMOUS

Mark Raynes Roberts is Principal of Raynes Art + Design Ltd, an internationally recognized crystal art and design firm, providing interior design solutions for

luxury environments. Born and trained in England, his sculptures can be found in private and corporate art collections around the world.



*Dr. James T. Rutka*

SYNAPTIC TRANSMISSION

Dr. James T. Rutka is the R.S. McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Director of The Arthur and Sonia Labatt Brain Tumour Research

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*Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen*

PIZZAZZ

Renowned designer, writer, successful photographer, hilarious speaker, chef, mixologist Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen

resides in the magnificent outskirts of San Francisco. Her [pinterest.com/fashionandflair](https://www.pinterest.com/fashionandflair) and [fashionwithflair.blogspot.com](http://fashionwithflair.blogspot.com) is filled with life lessons and laughter, exquisitely mirrored in her column Pizzazz.



## *Coercion And Population Health*

BY H. GAIL REGAN  
TORONTO – CANADA

It is 1950. I am six years old and my sister is three. Her nursery school serves a full meal at lunch. At dinner in the evening she firmly says, “No spoonsils.” I hold up the nightly vegetable. “Is this a spoonsil?” “No,” she says, “no spoonsils.” One night we had Brussels sprouts, which I don’t like. I pressed her. “This is the worst vegetable,” I said, “it must be a spoonsil.” “No! No! No!” she screams, “no spoonsils.”

Mom figures out that what she is trying to say is that while she is not disgusted by a particular vegetable, she objects strenuously to the requirement to eat them, even if just a spoonful.

Periodically, Mom takes us to the doctor for a check-up and immunization. A particular shot makes me very ill, but not my little sister. I decide that while it is OK for her to have

shots, I should not have any more. I mention this idea to Mom who says she will talk to the doctor.

When it becomes time for the next shot, Mom seems to have forgotten our conversation. When the doctor goes to give it, I protest by screaming, wailing. It is hard to keep up the act but I manage. The doctor says I am too upset to get the shot.

A few days later, Mom takes me back to the doctor who jabs me as I walk in the door. “See,” she says, “you are a big girl. You can stand the pain.” “Oh,” I thought, “you do not understand. It is not the pain of the shot that frightens me. It is the feeling of being so sick I want to die.”

With programs that offer these kinds of client experiences, is it any wonder that vegetable

consumption and immunization are too low for optimal population health?

Mom consulted with Dad and her brother in various businesses. She did not trust leaders who were too compulsive or too narcissistic. She wanted adaptive capacity, flexibility. And she wanted these qualities in her children. “Be a big person,” she would say. “Roll with the punches; bend like the willow.”

If we want our health programs to work, we must be less compulsive and narcissistic about the current formats. We must bend to the child’s mind and be big enough to choose adaptive strategies.



## *Responsibilities Of Companies And The Government*

BY STANLEY J. DORST  
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

A recent editorial suggests that “Effective limits on subsidy chasing ... companies... will have to be implemented and follow the European model”.

Why is it that whenever people don't like something that is happening in our economy they say we should do it like they do in Europe?

Europe does not perform better, it is not leading the world in new discoveries or national income per capital – we are. We are more disruptive, more changing and more leading.

So back to the subject: Cities providing incentives to companies to locate with them.

There are many factors besides incentive subsidies that

determine where a company will locate a new facility. Consider the reason Boeing, Chevron and Google relocated – being treated as the goose that lays the golden egg and thereafter being smothered with demands and taxes that make it attractive to move out, and by failure to make improvements required for the companies to carry out their businesses.

So a city offers tax breaks and other incentives to a company to locate with them or to lure them away from another city. The incentives recognize the great amount of income and jobs that a major development brings to a city. But also it recognizes the cost of the business locating there. The competition that Google carried out was somewhat disgusting

and in the end the dollar incentives were not determinant. I think such is usually the case – other factors are more important than the financial incentives. But in light of the huge taxes and jobs they bring, helping companies out with their location costs makes sense. Most of us would agree. It should not be up to the government where companies locate, or some will just go to another country.

Let us remember where the jobs and wealth are created; it is not by the government or the protesters; it is by companies.



## *The Poet's Corner*

### *And Here We Are My Love*

And here we are, my love!  
Face to face at midlife;  
Seeing each other as we are.  
We finally grew up.

I, too, accept you, my beloved;  
To love you because you exist;  
Sexual love is divine!

With you my world is in perfect balance.  
Even without your love for me,  
I shall still love you,  
Because I love your happiness more!

© Joan Chisholm

### *Delightful Daisy*

Dear, darling, damsel  
Dapper demeanor, dainty diminutive derriere  
Diaphanous, delicious, discriminating, desirable,  
demure, dimpled, dewy-eyed dazzler.

Dawdles, daffy, drawls double Dutch  
diddle-diddles, docile, down-to-earth,  
dramatic dresser, decent, dependent.  
Devours deserts.

Debonair dynamo, delivers delight, distinguished,  
determined disposition, dauntless,  
deluxe dreamer, delicate.

Dexterous, disjointed  
delights drawing, ducking, disappearing,  
dangling, dashing, darting, disrupting

dunking, drumming, dizzying, dissembling,  
dissecting,  
disregarding directions, denouncing discipline.

Daring doer, daredevil.  
Declarative, diligent, dutiful, doubter  
decisive, deducing dominating debater.  
Dings, discerning diplomatic discussant.

Disheveled, dippy, disobedient, devoted,  
detractor, disorderly,  
disagreeable, demanding, delegating  
demonstratively direct, distracting.

Discerning divine diva  
does declare – double deuce  
Delightful Daisy

© Vera Resnik

### *I Hold That*

How complex has simplicity become, when our  
cynical nature punishes truth to satisfy our belief of  
superiority? If something was tangible, we'd have  
discovered it, and thereby validated it as a worthy  
piece of our collection, right? But how many  
wrongs have been discovered only in contrast to  
new rights? I hold that truth lies within the man  
who is unafraid to question. Who pretends to lead  
and who is aware they're following?

I hold that my glass of cement is always full....and  
the portion I use for direction will replace itself in  
the wake of my freedom.

© Gary Sweeney



## *In A Leadership That Embraces Uncertainty And Emergence*

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALAN BRISKIN  
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

What we need more than shouting our answers out loud is a quiet confidence in not knowing. We need better questions, and most critically a practiced tolerance for allowing the new to arise from the old.

From the perspective of neuro-science, not knowing is an intentional choice to inhibit the part of the brain wired for certainty, predictability and control. “Not knowing” doesn’t mean we ignore what we know. It means we hold what we know lightly so something new can emerge. We listen to voices other than our own, seek to understand the system we are part of, and bring to light underlying assumptions limiting our thinking.

When addressing the value of uncertainty, I like to reference the concept of “negative capability,” a term initially articulated by the poet John Keats in 1817. He described it as the capacity of being in “uncertainties, mysteries, doubts, without any irritable reaching after fact and reason.” Organizational theorists were drawn to its implications for leadership. They observed how leaders, when encountering situations of great ambiguity, moved into defensive behaviors that only made things worse. And they noticed three specific defensive postures.

The first was to become overwhelmed, reflected in behaviors such as avoidance, postponement, or the

inability to come to a decision – not because of the uncertainties but because they were in a state of fear or overload. The second defensive behavior was hyper-intellectualization; going into an explanatory mode that sounded good but resolved nothing and often was associated with becoming emotionally unavailable. The third defense – maybe the most common of all – was moving directly into action without thoughtfulness or consideration of consequences.

The linguistic root of the word “capability” is associated with holding or containing. I just bought pots for bamboo and was told to buy ones with thicker walls because bamboo can crack through the thinner pots. In the same way, our emotional and conceptual containers need to be strong enough to hold discomfort and large enough to cultivate new ideas. By “negative”, Keats was not referring to pessimism or destructive thoughts but the rare ability to be empty of pre-conceived solutions. By naming this ability a strength, he was shining a light on a leadership skill necessary for encountering volatility, ambiguity, and complexity – a skill we need now more than ever.

More on Alan’s writing and photography at [www.alanbriskin.com](http://www.alanbriskin.com)

EXCLUSIVE

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## *Canada*

### TERRA BUS, ATHABASCA GLACIER

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Located in the Rocky Mountains in the province of Alberta, the gigantic Athabasca Glacier covers 325 kilometers and is the largest accumulation of snow and ice south of the Arctic Circle. Its inaccessibility led to the development of the Terra Bus, a snow coach built to carry passengers over the glacier without paved roads. There are only 23 of these custom-built vehicles in the world, 22 in Alberta and one in the McMurdo base in the Antarctic.

The buses, called Ice Explorers, carry 56 passengers at a time over the magnificent scenery of icefields and mountains. These 15-meter-long vehicles are constructed to handle almost any kind of condition, and can navigate through shale, sand, mud bogs, ice and snow. Each of the six tires on the bus is over one and half meters in diameter, and is kept soft and balloon-like so as not to damage the fragile terrain. Terra buses move at the slow speed of only 10 to 25 miles per hour, and rarely get stuck. They can descend a 30% side gradient or go up a 60% grade, and can ford streams of over a meter in depth. The Athabasca is North America's most visited glacier, with its popularity directly related to its accessibility. Visiting the glacier is so popular that the buses are in near constant use.

As the announcer on the bus declares when it starts its journey onto the icefields, "You'll pay for the whole seat, but you'll only use the eeedggge!".

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# *Columbia*

## MEDELLIN'S CABLE CARS

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

As the center of Pablo Escobar's drug cartel, Medellin was considered one of the world's most violent cities in the 1980s and '90s, with police reluctant to enter many parts of the city as street gangs and guerilla groups fought each other for control of neighborhoods. Violence in the countryside resulted in its depopulation, with those surviving the murders and disappearances moving to the city, where they inhabited slums that climbed up the exceptionally steep slopes of the Medellin River valley. The resultant crowded, narrow roads and steep inclines made it impossible to provide public transportation to bring the inhabitants to the city for work, and there were few jobs in the slums.

In 2004, Medellin opened its first fast-moving urban gondola, a new kind of mass transit. Going from the Santa Domingo hilltop slum, then one of the city's most violent areas, to the city center, the cable car enabled people to find work in the city and bring money to the community. The number of homicides in Santa Domingo fell from 293 in 2001 to 15 in 2016, and it is now considered a place of relative peace. The second line was opened in 2008 to La Aurora, and today there are three lines, with more planned.

The cable cars each hold eight passengers and ascend the hills on an elevated cable at 10 miles an hour. They drop their passengers at stations right in the middle of busy city neighborhoods. Line K, the first and most popular line, has 30,000 riders per day. The first city in the world to use cable cars for public transport, Medellin has been enormously successful in reducing crime and offering the residents of the city a sense of belonging.

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# *Hong Kong*

## CENTRAL MID-LEVEL ESCALATOR

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Ascending 135 meters through the streets of a steep hillside on Hong Kong island, the 800-meter-long mid-level escalator linking Queen's Road in Central to Conduit Road in Mid-Levels is the longest outdoor, covered escalator in the world. Opened in 1993, the system provides free transportation for residents, commuters and tourists, with ridership currently at 78,000 people a day, three times the original estimate, and takes 25 minutes to travel one way.

Due to limited space in the narrow streets through which the escalator passes, it was not feasible to build two escalators, and so the escalator, which is actually 20 escalators and several moving walkways, travels in a downward direction from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., allowing commuters to reach their offices in Central, and then switches to an uphill direction until midnight. Stairs parallel the escalator in case you are travelling in the opposite direction.

There are more than a dozen entrance and exit points along the way, with rest areas between the long walkways, and you can get on and off at any point. In some locations the escalator reaches three storeys, offering views into the markets and open-air food stalls, or dai pai dongs, below. Weaving its way through residential and commercial neighborhoods, it passes through the glass and steel towers of Central, past narrow alleys and through the Soho district, filled with restaurants and bars, ending at the Mid-Level housing skyscrapers. Prior to its construction, commuters had to take a circuitous route of several miles of zigzagging roads in order to travel between the two districts. In addition to easing the commute, the escalators have served to revitalize many neighborhoods.

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# Germany

## WUPPERTAL SUSPENSION MONORAIL

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The commencement of the era of train travel proved to be a challenging time for the hilly Wupper Valley where a traditional railway could not be built due to tight corners, rivers and sharp drops. Although plans for a hanging monorail were drawn up in 1826, it was resisted by local landowners, and construction did not begin until 1898. The monorail opened in 1901, and to showcase the impressive feat, a test run was conducted with German Emperor Wilhelm II on board in a specially designed Kaiserwagen, a car that is still used for special events today.

The suspension monorail runs 18 trains per direction per hour and transports 85,000 people every day. Each train consists of two cars, each with a capacity of under 200 people per car. It is narrower than conventional trains, with room for only two seats, an aisle and a solo seat across its width. The monorail has an exceptionally rare train design, as the wheels sit on top of the single rail. The 13-kilometer ride from terminus to terminus takes 35 minutes, stopping at 20 stations along the way, and has become an indispensable method of transport for the people of Wuppertal, enabling them to move through the city without problems of traffic, ice or snow. Travelling above the Wupper River, the train passes over diverse scenery: 19th century buildings, stone landscapes, wooded riverbanks and factories. It is the world's oldest monorail still in operation and Europe's only suspended railway.

The monorail's most famous rider was a young elephant named Tuffi, who was taken aboard in 1950 as an advertisement for the circus. Clearly not enjoying the ride, she burst through the side of the carriage and jumped to freedom, landing in the river below. Other than a bruised bottom, Tuffi sauntered off unharmed.

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## *India*

### KERALA HOUSEBOAT

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Running parallel to the Arabian Sea coast in South West India, the Kerala Backwaters are a chain of lagoons, lakes, rivers and canals totaling over 900 km in length. Historically, houseboats called Kettuvalloms were the primary means of transport of people and materials through the area, and were essential in the transportation of rice and spices from the paddy fields to the sea coast, given the absence of roads. A standard houseboat was 60 to 100 feet long, built of wood without nails, and could hold up to 30 tons. The wood was coated with a black resin extracted from boiled cashew kernels, and lasted for generations. The thatched roofs made from bamboo poles and palm leaves protected the cargo from sudden tropical rains.

Although the Kettuvalloms operated for centuries, starting in 3,000 B.C.E., technological developments resulted in more efficient and faster boats, and eventually they were overtaken by trains and motor vehicles. Today the houseboats are used primarily for tourists. Some are motorized while others are steered through the waters by means of oars or a rudder, with long bamboo poles called punts used to propel the boat through shallow areas. The Backwaters have a unique ecosystem in which fresh water from the rivers meets the seawater from the Arabian Sea. The area contains rare species of aquatic life such as crabs and frogs, water birds such as terns, kingfishers and cormorants, and animals such as otters and turtles. Numerous trees and plants on the banks of the water provide a green hue to the surroundings.

Today's houseboats are ancient Kettuvalloms with modernized interiors, resulting in many luxury houseboats which cruise the waterways and their towns and cities, providing a relaxing way to tour through the historic and remote locations.

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## *International*

### RIVER AND OCEAN CRUISES

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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River cruising is an entirely different experience from ocean cruising and has become increasingly popular in recent years. The boats are small, generally holding 100 to 200 passengers, and travel along the major rivers of the world such as the Danube and the Rhine in Europe, the Amazon in Peru, the Nile in Egypt, the Yangtze in China and the Mekong in Vietnam. Lasting for one week or longer, they stop at a different port every day, and sometimes two. In contrast to ocean cruises, a river cruise ship docks right in the town's historic center. Many communal activities are offered such as walking or cycling tours, workshops or discussions onboard, or cooking classes.

Royal Viking River Cruises offers intimate experiences designed to encourage its passengers to appreciate the destinations through its food, culture, countryside and customs. Viking provides an understanding of local life during excursions such as visiting a Russian home in the quaint town of Uglich or meeting children at an elementary school in China. In order to see the world at work, excursions such as a visit to the inner workings of a windmill or learning the art of truffle hunting from a local farmer are offered. Food is a critical part of any Viking cruise, both on board and on shore, and highly trained chefs offer impeccable meals. Viking travelers are offered exclusive entry to museums, and to such cultural performances as ballet and opera.

For those interested in a larger ship, Viking also offers ocean cruises, providing the same attention to detail as their river cruises.

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# Italy

## GONDOLA

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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The iconic symbol of Venice, gondolas were the main method of transporting people for centuries after horses were banned from the streets in the 14th century. Originally used only by the aristocracy, they were extravagantly decorated with expensive materials, and the nobility competed amongst themselves for the most beautiful and lavish boats. Each person of high rank had his own gondola and gondolier. Then in 1562 the Senate, in an attempt to quash the wealth ostentation, mandated that all gondolas must be black and bare. It is estimated that there were 8-10,000 gondolas in use in the 17th and 18th centuries, whereas today only 400 exist, and these are used exclusively to carry tourists on rides on the canals.

Gondolas are made in workshops called “squeri”, and are constructed out of 280 different pieces made from eight species of wood. It takes months to build one gondola, which then lasts for 30 years. A gondola is 11 meters long and has an asymmetric shape, with the left side wider than the right. Each gondola is slightly different from the others because it is built to accommodate the body weight of its gondolier, who always stands on one side and rows with a single oar. The construction ensures that the boat always goes in a straight line.

In order to navigate the waters around the shifting sandbars, the boats are flat, with no keel or rudder, and the gondoliers stand up in order to see. The decorative ornament on the front, called a “fero”, acts as a counterweight to the gondolier standing at the back of the gondola.



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# *Japan*

## ESHIMA OHASHI BRIDGE

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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Often considered the scariest bridge in the world, the spectacular Eshima Ohashi Bridge is located in western Japan. Construction began in 1997 with the intention of connecting the cities of Matsue and Sakaiminato, which are located on opposite sides of Nakaumi Lake, and was completed in 2004. The bridge appears to soar straight into the sky and down again, earning its nickname of the Roller Coaster Bridge.

A two-lane concrete road, the 1.44 km long bridge is the largest rigid frame bridge in Japan and the third largest in the world. It has a gradient of 6.1% on the Matsue side and 5.1% on the Sakaiminato side, allowing ships to pass underneath it.

Photos taken while directly facing the bridge make it appear far steeper than it actually is. In fact, cars ascend and descend somewhat gradually, and its high fences result in the bridge being less scary to drive on than to look at. While at first glance you might decide you do not want to drive on it in severe weather, engineers designed the drainage system well enough to provide the necessary traction.

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## *Mexico*

### COPPER CANYON ZIPLINE

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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Copper Canyon, or Barranca del Cobre in Spanish, is actually a system of canyons in Chihuahua State in northwestern Mexico. One of the largest canyons on the planet, it is home to the ZipRider, an experience not for the faint of heart.

The second longest zipline course in the world, the ZipRider is comprised of seven stages, including two swinging bridges that must be crossed to continue. From the launch platform at the edge of the canyon, riders soar over three different canyons while harnessed to a zipline: Del Cobre, Tararecua and Urique. The trip takes around 90 minutes, during which time the rider descends to the bottom of the canyon. The total length of the zipline is 2,454 meters, with a vertical drop of 450 meters and a 17% grade. The lines range from 45 to 450 feet high and 120 meters to 1.1 kilometers in length.

Each stage of the ride has two parallel lines, so it is possible to go in pairs or with a guide, who can control the speed. In addition to the spectacular plateaux, boulder fields and ravines below, the ride flies over the corn and bean fields of the local Tarahumaran community. From the bottom, the breathless riders take the cable car back up to the rim of the canyon

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# Myanmar

## FISHING BOAT, INLE LAKE

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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Stretching for 22 km in the Shan plateau of central Myanmar, Inle Lake is the main source of life for the Intha, meaning “lake people”, who live in the 200 villages of the lake’s watershed. Residing in either floating homes or houses built on high stilts, the Intha cultivate tomatoes, squash and aubergine plants on gardens which float around the lake. There is even a floating Buddhist temple right in the center of the lake.

Because of the tall reeds growing in the lake, the Intha have developed a unique way of fishing. Standing on one leg at the end of the boat, a fisherman wraps his other leg around the oar, and in this way propels the boat. This leaves his hands free to operate the fishing net. Requiring an enormous amount of balance, agility and strength, the fishermen learn their craft when they are 13 years old and continue until they are around 75 years of age. Thought to have originated in the 12th century, the art of one-legged rowing enables the fishermen to see above the reeds and plants in the lake, which they would not be able to do if they were sitting down. It allows them to see across the lake to find thick hyacinth weeds just below the surface, where fish could be hiding. They can also keep watch for bursts of bubbles created by shoals of fish.

To begin fishing, the fishermen hit the water with their oars, then put their boats together and throw a cone-shaped net contraption into the water. Rowing with their legs enables them to keep their hands free to fish, which they do by spearing the fish through the hole at the top of the net. Starting just before dawn, they fish until it is time to take the catch to the local markets.

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## *Russia*

### TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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A marvel of engineering and a symbol of man's triumph over nature, the Trans-Siberian Railway connects eastern and western Russia, passing over the Urals, across endless steppe and alongside Lake Baikal, which at 640 km is the world's largest freshwater lake. Originally built as a means of transporting goods across Russia, the railway has provided those people living in the small towns along the way with a connection to the rest of the country. There are three routes, the longest being the seven-day Moscow to Vladivostok route, a distance of 9,258 km and the longest ride you can make on a single train. Along the way it is possible to stop for overnight stays in different towns. Irkutsk is a popular destination for a stop, with its churches, museums and streets of log cabins, as is Yekaterinburg, where you can see the church built on the site of the murder of the last Tsar and his family, and Kazan, with its massive Kremlin, designated a World Heritage Site.

Considered by many to be the most interesting of the routes, the 7,621 km-long Trans-Manchurian goes from Moscow to Beijing via Mongolia, taking six days. It crosses Mongolia by way of the Gobi Desert through the grassy steppes, brightened by herds of Mongolian horses or camels and groups of yurts before entering China.

The Trans-Manchurian route does not pass through Russia for the entire journey, instead passing through Chinese cities such as Harbin and Changchun. Taking six days, it travels 8,986 km.

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## *Switzerland*

### TITLIS ROTAIR SKI LIFT

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The beginning of the 20th century saw the development of the town of Engelberg, an hour outside of Lucerne in central Switzerland, as a winter sport resort. The area around the town is now the largest ski region in the area, combining Mt. Titlis and Mt. Bruni, with 25 ski lifts and the longest downhill ski run in the Alps, measuring 26 km from the top of Mt. Titlis to the valley floor. It also contains the world's longest natural ski jump.

From the ground, the riders ascend to the middle station on the mountain by way of a traditional cable car. At this point, the riders board the Titlis Rotair, a round cable car that revolves 360 degrees during the five-minute trip to the summit of the mountain, 3,020 meters high, passing over the incredible rock formations, ice boulders, and deep crevasses of the glacier below. With its panoramic windows, riders can experience different views as the cabin rotates while travelling up the mountain. Upon reaching the summit, the riders go through an underground tunnel to a viewing platform, while a suspension bridge takes people to the Ice Flyer glacier lift station, where a chair lift built for viewing careens over the glacier. Ice caverns, carved out of the glacier three levels down, are another popular attraction.

Carrying up to 1,000 people per hour, the Rotair ski lift was designed to make cable cars more interesting as competition for visitors increases among Alpine resorts. The lift continues to operate in the summer, and while the peaks can still be covered in snow, the slopes and valleys below are green and filled with hiking and biking trails.

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# *Thailand*

## TUK-TUK

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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An iconic symbol of Thailand, the three-wheeled open-air motorized vehicle is the successor to the human-powered rickshaw, and has been in existence for about 50 years. The unusual name came from the sound made by the small-capacity, two-cycle engine; when it is started, it sounds like “tuk-tuk-tuk-tuk”.

Although their primary function is to transport people, tuk-tuks are also used for industrial purposes due to their small size, which is convenient for navigating small alleys on delivery routes. There are about 20,000 tuk-tuks in Thailand, with 9,000 in Bangkok. They are found most often in tourist areas, around markets or cruising the streets for fares. Designs vary around the country. The classic yellow and blue vehicles are found in the major cities of Bangkok and Chiang Mai, but the most creative are in Trang and Ayutthaya provinces, where the green tuk-tuks are nicknamed for their appearance that looks like a frog’s head.

There are no meters in tuk-tuks, so it is necessary to barter for the fare. Although the fares are usually close to those of taxis, the experience of an open-air ride is a major attraction for tourists. Agreeing on a fare is a must before climbing into the tuk-tuk, or a big surprise might result at the end of the ride. Scams are also common, particularly when a driver quotes a low fare and then takes the passengers to gem stores or tailors, where they will be pressured into buying something. If the fare seems far too low, this is probably the driver’s intention, as he can afford to entice passengers into his vehicle this way, knowing he will receive a kickback from the vendor. When the suggested fare is very low, beware!

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## *United Arab Emirates*

### APARTMENT AIRPLANE

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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The most luxurious space available in commercial aviation today is beyond a doubt The Residence by Etihad Airlines on their Airbus A380. Created for two people travelling together by leading interior designers, the three-room suite consists of a living room, separate bedroom and ensuite shower.

The living room contains a leather two-seater sofa with an ottoman, a chilled refreshments cabinet and a dining table as well as a 32-inch flat screen TV with Sennheiser noise-cancelling headphones. Walk down the hallway and you come to a bedroom with a large double bed, made up with designer Italian bed linen and a choice of pillows. A 27-inch flat screen TV in the bedroom also comes equipped with noise-cancelling headphones. The ensuite bathroom is fitted with a full-height shower, luxury amenities and bathrobes. A vanity unit with a magnifying make-up mirror and hairdryer ensures you are in perfect shape for your arrival.

All guests booked into The Residence have access to a VIP Travel Concierge service from the time the reservation is made until the trip is over. A chauffeur and private check-in and lounge are available. Once on board, the Etihad Butler is at your service to plan both the in-flight and after-flight itineraries, and an inflight Chef prepares meals from a range of gourmet options or will create dishes as requested by the travelers.

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## *United Kingdom/France*

### THE CHUNNEL

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
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The idea of building a tunnel under the English Channel was around for a long time; even in 1802 a plan was suggested to Napoleon Bonaparte. However, it was not until the late 20th century that technology advanced to the point where it became feasible, and in 1986 the U.K. and France signed a treaty authorizing the construction of an undersea tunnel linking Folkestone in southern England and Calais in northern France.

Work began in 1988 and over the next four years 13,000 workers dug 95 miles of tunnel at an average depth of 45 meters below sea level. Construction took six years and cost \$21 billion, the most expensive construction project in the world up to that point. The 50 km tunnel opened on May 6, 1994, with both Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and France's President Mitterand on site in Calais for the inaugural run. It is used by high-speed passenger trains, trains that carry cars and other vehicles, and cargo trains.

The Channel Tunnel or Euro Tunnel, also known as the Chunnel, consists of three tubes. Two are full-sized and accommodate rail traffic, one going from the U.K. to France and the other from France to the U.K. The third is a smaller service tunnel that acts as an emergency escape route and allows people and equipment to move through the tunnel without blocking the trains. There are also several "cross-over" passages that allow trains to switch from one track to another and to provide the operators with flexibility should a section of the rail tunnels have to be shut down. All trains that go through the tunnels are electric powered, eliminating the problem of having fumes underground. There are several diesel locomotives available for emergency work should the power fail. The Chunnel remains an engineering marvel, and in 1996 was selected by the American Society of Civil Engineers as one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World.

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## *United States*

### INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON /  
TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

At the end of the 19th century, there was only one motorized vehicle on the road for every 18,000 Americans. Roads were made of packed dirt or mud, and outside of the towns there were no gas stations or street signs. This changed in 1908 with Henry Ford's invention of the Model T, and by 1927 Ford had sold 15 million automobiles; cars had become a necessity instead of a luxury. Roads were built, however designs and colors varied from one state to another, resulting in confusion among motorists.

President Dwight Eisenhower signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act in 1956, creating a 41,000-mile national system of interstate highways that would, according to Eisenhower, eliminate unsafe roads and inefficient routes, and would promote speedy, safe transcontinental travel. He felt that in the event of an atomic attack on key U.S. cities, the highways would allow quick evacuation. In addition to connecting the nation, the highways would provide ground transport routes for military supplies and troop deployments in the event of a foreign invasion. The allocation of \$26 billion to fund the project, which standardized U.S. highway signs, was paid for by way of an increased gasoline tax.

The existence of the Interstate Highway System has had a huge impact on the country. It accelerated the development of commerce throughout the nation, allowing trucks to move quickly from one region to another. It has increased the mobility of Americans, enabling them to move out of the cities into the suburbs, and to travel quickly from one area to another for vacation and business. The economic impact of the Act is still felt today due to the maintenance required for the highways.



## *Mass Murders On The Rise*

BY DR. ROSE A. DYSON  
TORONTO – CANADA

When will policy makers wake up and acknowledge the poisonous virus spreading on the internet in the form of violent video games? It is widely acknowledged that the surrounding culture provides fertile ground for sowing seeds of resentment and hate. The gunman who live-streamed himself killing 50 mosque worshippers in Christchurch, New Zealand was yet another extensively covered mass murder that dominated the headlines.

It added to the growing list compiled by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman in his book, “Assassination Generation” (2016). The phenomenon began in 1975 in Paducah, Kentucky when a 14-year-old boy shot eight students in a prayer circle in his school. That massacre followed the worldwide release of first-person shooter, interactive video games. The numbers have been growing ever since. Marketing of violent

video games and generous subsidies provided for their production with no regard for studies showing harmful effects is nothing short of tragic.

It was reported in 2013 that “Grand Theft Auto V”, a video game in which you cannot play the good guy because the entire premise is based on criminal behavior, made more money than the entire global music industry. The premise in these games, that killing is fun, has led to dangerous and dysfunctional behavior. These involve operant conditioning techniques, first developed by psychologist B.F. Skinner, and now used in military training, but in carefully controlled circumstances. These are non-existent in the local video arcade or recreation room.

For one killer, who survived his rampage in Isla Vista, California on May, 2014, it all began at the age of six when he received his

first Nintendo 64 for Christmas. At 10 it was replaced with a new Play Station 2. Additional gaming opportunities presented themselves at local community centers. His obsession with gaming continued until, as an adult, he killed six people and wounded 13 more. Grossman estimates that today 10 percent of students suffer from pathological video game use.

An examination of the killing pattern exhibited by the Christchurch killer indicated scenes identical to those in the video game “Call of Duty”. Clearly it is time to seriously address this dangerous online pollutant. The divisive, hate-filled cultural influences proliferating in cyberspace are fueling a mean-world syndrome. Video game makers are among those that must be held to account. This will only happen if we acknowledge their potent influence.



YES, VIRGINIA! —————

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As we venture out into our world, your travel can consist of a day visit to the closest towns or a journey that will place your feet clear on the other side of the world. It is all about discovery and about everywhere you walk. So, COME – EXPLORE WITH ME.

## *Christmas Time At The Vatican*

BY LOIS M. GORDON  
SILICON VALLEY – CALIFORNIA

Long before the season of Christmas arrives, the erecting of the Vatican Christmas tree as well as the life-size nativity scene (the size of a two-storey house) is unveiled on Christmas Eve in Saint Peter's Square.

It was in 1982 during the pontificate of Pope John Paul II that the Polish-born Pope introduced the northern European symbol of Christmas spirit. The tradition of erecting a Christmas tree was celebrated in northern Europe and in Poland, yet until this time, never in the Vatican.

The first tree came from Italy. Since then, the offering of the Christmas tree to the Pope has become an honor, and each year the Vatican accepts a tree donated by a different European country or region and is left standing until the end of January.

The nativity scene has 17 life-size statues. Of these, nine are

the original figures donated in 1842 by Saint Vincent Pallottifor. The nativity scene in the Roman church of Sant'Andrea della Valle and the other eight figures were added over the course of the years. In 2006 the Italian province of Trentino and the local council of a village of Tesero provided a further 13 sculpted wooden figures and animals as well as household utensils for the depiction of daily life.

Together with Nativity scenes and Christmas trees, there are so many more exciting happenings going on.

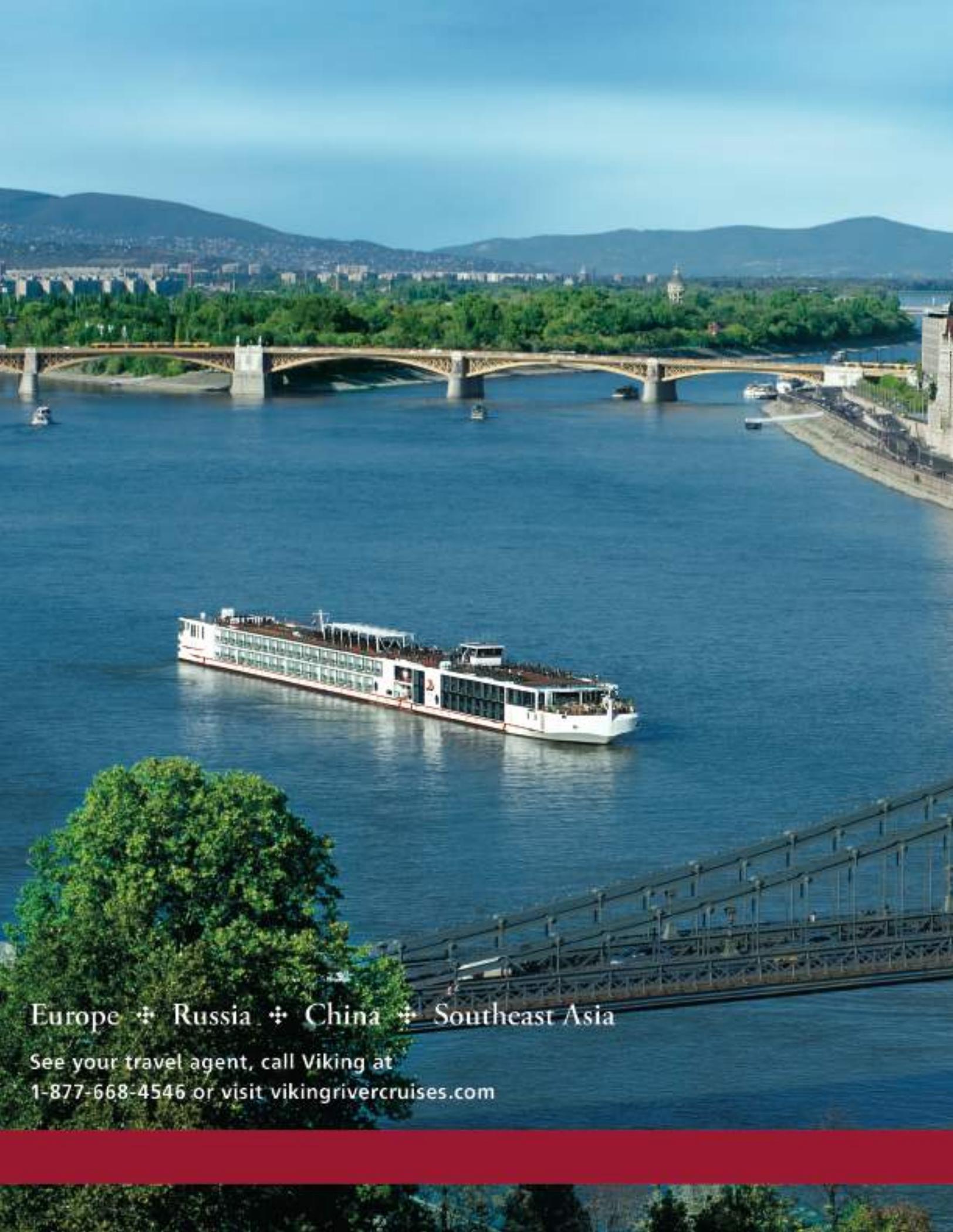
– A full diary of papal liturgical events is prepared for the Pope.

– After the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, the Pope makes his traditional address at the foot of the Spanish Steps, next to a statue of Our Lady.

– The Holy Father makes an Advent pastoral visit as the Bishop of Rome.

In addition to the public events, the Pope celebrates Christmas privately with the members of his papal household. "We celebrate Christmas together, listen to holiday music, and exchange gifts," the Pope has said.

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## *Ode To Aphrodite And Hala Sultan Nicosia, Cyprus, 2005*

PHOTOGRAPHY AND TEXT BY FARHAD NARGOL-O'NEILL  
IRELAND / TORONTO

The success of my first mural in Cyprus, completed in 2004, led the British Council (Cyprus), ETEK (Technical Chamber of Cyprus), the British High Commission, and Turkcell to commission me to create a second mural for Cyprus.

I completed this mural with the assistance of Greek and Turkish Cypriot art student apprentices in 2005. The project was managed by the most excellent Ms. Sencan Yesilida from the British Council (Cyprus). The opening was attended by dignitaries from Cyprus and the

European Union, as well as by artists and residents of Nicosia.

The mural was designed to represent a coming together of the two principle cultural traditions in Cyprus, and so the composition features two female figures – Aphrodite from the Hellenic tradition (Cyprus being the birthplace of Venus in Greek mythology), and the Hala Sultan, an important first companion of the Islamic prophet Mohammed whose supporters came to Cyprus during the early years of that religion. In the mural, both female figures face each other –

Venus emerging from a shell, and the Hala Sultan heavily abstracted, with only the face area showing. A traditional Cypriot floral pattern called “leftkara” brings the two figures together, and an image of the shape of the city of Nicosia is placed between them, symbolizing a shared history.

Heavily degraded by the weather, efforts at restoration are now being spoken about by the requisite authorities in Cyprus.



## Scents

BY KATHLEEN MAILLIARD SOLMSEN  
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

Can we humans “THINK” a scent? My immediate answer was “sure”. So I thought about the smell of our favorite English rose in our garden. After returning from the back yard, I realized that I can think about the memories and pleasures of that rose, but I can't actually think “SCENT”.

Curiosity got the best of me and put my nose to work. I imagined the scent of Chanel No 5. My birthday is August 19th, as is Coco Chanel's ... so emotions play a part in my love of Chanel No 5. One spray on my wrist brings those feelings I like.

A few months ago, we stayed at a chic hotel that gifted us with all kinds of Bvlgari toiletries; a complex scent that works for both women and men. I'm not one of those hotel thieves who

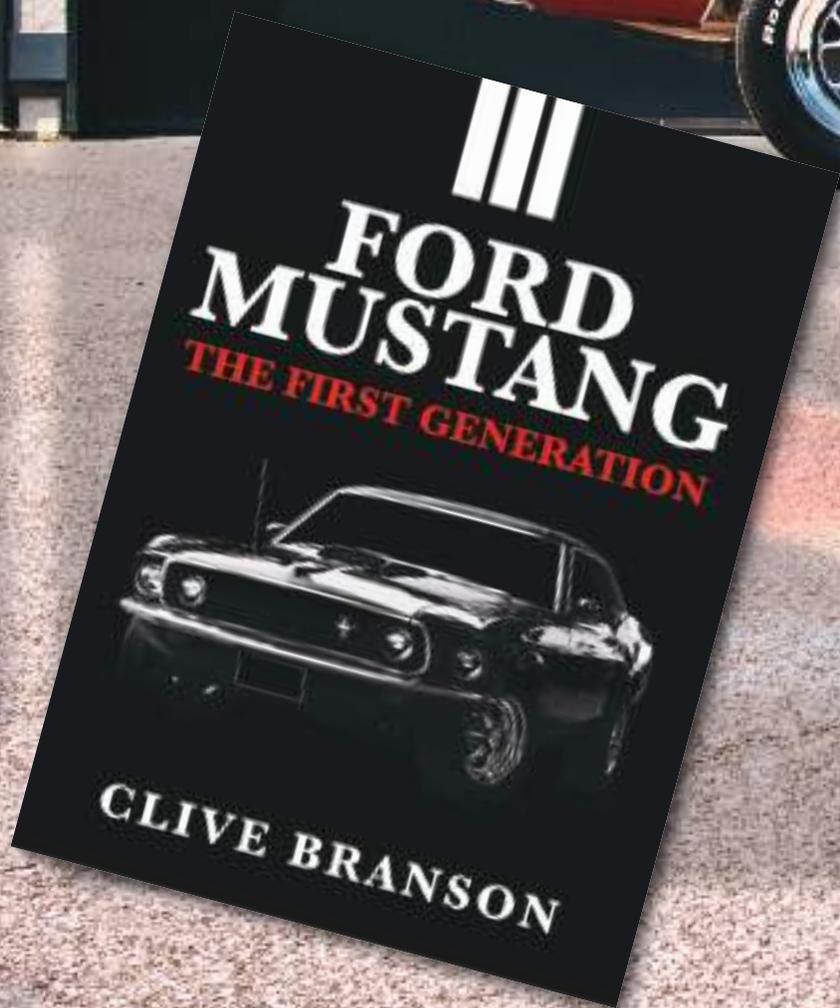
takes soaps and shampoos out of the maid's hallway cart, but I did bring one tiny bottle of body lotion home. That mini-vacation was filled with parties, shopping and hanging out at the rooftop bar. After I used the last drop of lotion, I jammed the little bottle into my TV-time chair. Whenever I feel like “going back to that weekend”, I simply open the bottle and take a big sniff! BOOM: I'm there! Similar story: my pal keeps an empty bottle of her father's aftershave lotion on her desk. Whenever she opens that bottle, she is with her dad. So I've concluded that you can't “THINK” smells, but you can remember and relive the emotions, memories and good times of a scent.

We can all agree, the “Norman Rockwell” Thanksgiving

traditional plethora of delights is only enhanced by the cornucopia of memory-infused scents, stories and feelings of being as stuffed as the turkey centerpiece. Indeed, senses delight!

Last weekend, there was a vintage car show on our main drag. My husband “put his nose” into a car that his dad loved. “I can't believe these horsehair velvet seats take me right back to my father driving me to school!” He was touched and thrilled. Without a doubt, scents do conjure up memories and when combined with taste, it can all be divine. Many real estate agents know this trick. Baking an apple pie in the house, in a subconscious way attracts buyers.

For me, and I hope for you – this all “makes perfect sense”.



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## *Fredericksburg, Texas*

BY JULIE REKAI RICKERD  
TORONTO – CANADA

Often described as having a “Texas heart and a German soul”, Fredericksburg, Texas was founded in 1846 by German settlers fleeing from the social and political upheavals of Europe at the time. The town is in the “heart” of the magnificent Texas Hill Country about an hour’s drive northwest of San Antonio, an hour and a half west of Austin.

The “souls” of these settlers are kept alive by their descendants on the town’s Main Street that is lined with a Pioneer Museum Complex of authentic historic buildings: homes, a smokehouse, a windmill that pumped water, a log cabin, a one-room schoolhouse, and a “Sunday House” built for rural farmers to stay in when they came to town with their families on weekends to do business on Saturdays and go to church on Sundays. Many of the buildings of native Texas limestone along

the street date back to the 19th century and have continued to be run as retail establishments: restaurants, fine art galleries, boot makers, and purveyors of superb foods and wines.

Peaches, grapes, wineries, breweries, and fields of wildflowers are among the many highlights of the county. From mid-May to mid-August there are few greater pleasures than eating the ripe, locally picked peaches. The 40 wineries in the region produce exquisite wines, and many of the Altstadt Brewery’s beers evoke their German origins. Restaurants galore offer the very best of German, Tex-Mex, and Texan BBQ delicacies.

Just 18 miles north of Fredericksburg are miles of hiking trails in the 640-acre Dark Sky Park within which the Enchanted Rock waits to be climbed. It is a huge, 1,825-

foot tall, pink-toned, solid granite dome that offers a spectacular 360-degree view of the Hill Country.

Nearby is Stonewall, the birthplace of Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States, and the LBJ Ranch, known as the Texas White House during his presidency. The one-room schoolhouse LBJ began to attend at the age of four is on the grounds, as are the Johnson family home, cemetery, the ranch’s show barn, airplane hangar and garage of Lincoln convertibles. Of its original 2,800 acres, filled with wildflowers like bluebonnets, Indian paintbrushes and poppies, the Johnsons donated 680 to the State.

For further information:

Access:

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## *The National Museum Of The Pacific War*

BY JULIE REKAI RICKERD  
TORONTO – CANADA

What began as a small commemorative museum honoring the life and career of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, in his boyhood town of Fredericksburg, Texas in 1967 has grown into a six-acre complex, the National Museum of the Pacific War.

It is an ideal private/public partnership between the Admiral Nimitz Foundation and the Texas Historical Commission that also “honors the more than 100,000 Americans who gave their lives in the war against Japan” and the eight million Americans who served in World War II.

The Museum’s primary 33,000-sq-ft exhibition space displays 40 media installations, 900 artifacts, 15 macro artifacts, and hundreds of photographs to “teach the history and lessons learned from the Pacific/ Asiatic Theater of Operations during World War II and to offer educational platforms for their application to current and future national security issues”.

Among the Museum’s highlights are the Admiral Nimitz Gallery; the George H.W. Bush Gallery that illustrates the shocking Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and displays an HA-19, one of the five original two-man submarines that played a role in the attack; the Japanese Garden of Peace; the Plaza of Presidents; the Nimitz Education and Research Center that houses thousands of manuscripts, official documents, photographs, and

recorded interviews with veterans; and the Pacific Combat Zone.

The Pacific Combat Zone is a two-acre exhibit where WWII Pacific Combat Living History Programs are showcased on scheduled weekends. The combat re-enactments furnish historical background tactics used by Americans and the Japanese during the war. The grand finale recreates a war-like battle that includes tanks and the firing of guns and flamethrowers, creating the feeling of an immersion into the sensations of battle.

A to-scale map illustrates the enormous geographical span of the Pacific Theater. A PT boat exhibit permits visitors to climb onto the deck of a PT boat tender to see how PT boats were equipped for their missions. An interactive TBM exhibit takes visitors below the deck of an aircraft carrier for a close-up view of a TBM Avenger aircraft preparing for a mission.

This remarkable museum engages all ages.

Address: 340 East Main Street, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 Tel: 830-997-8600  
Website: [www.pacificwarmuseum.org](http://www.pacificwarmuseum.org)

Hours: 9:00AM – 5:00 PM daily except Thanksgiving, December 24 and December 25

Admission: Adults: \$15. Seniors: \$12. Students and Children 6+ years: \$7. Tickets are valid for 48 hours.



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Sommerhaus

Sommerhaus

Opposite: The famous pink façade of the Gasthof Post in the heart of Lech, has been the hotel of choice for the Dutch Royal family, who have spent their winter vacations in the western Austrian state of Vorarlberg for years.

*Lech:  
The Crown Jewel Of Ski Resorts  
In The Austrian Alps*

PHOTOGRAPHY AND TEXT BY MARK RAYNES ROBERTS  
LONDON / TORONTO

Lech is an exclusive ski resort that combines all the desirable attributes of a civilized ski holiday while retaining its traditional Austrian character, where the hotels in Oberlech, the higher part of the village, are built directly on the slopes.

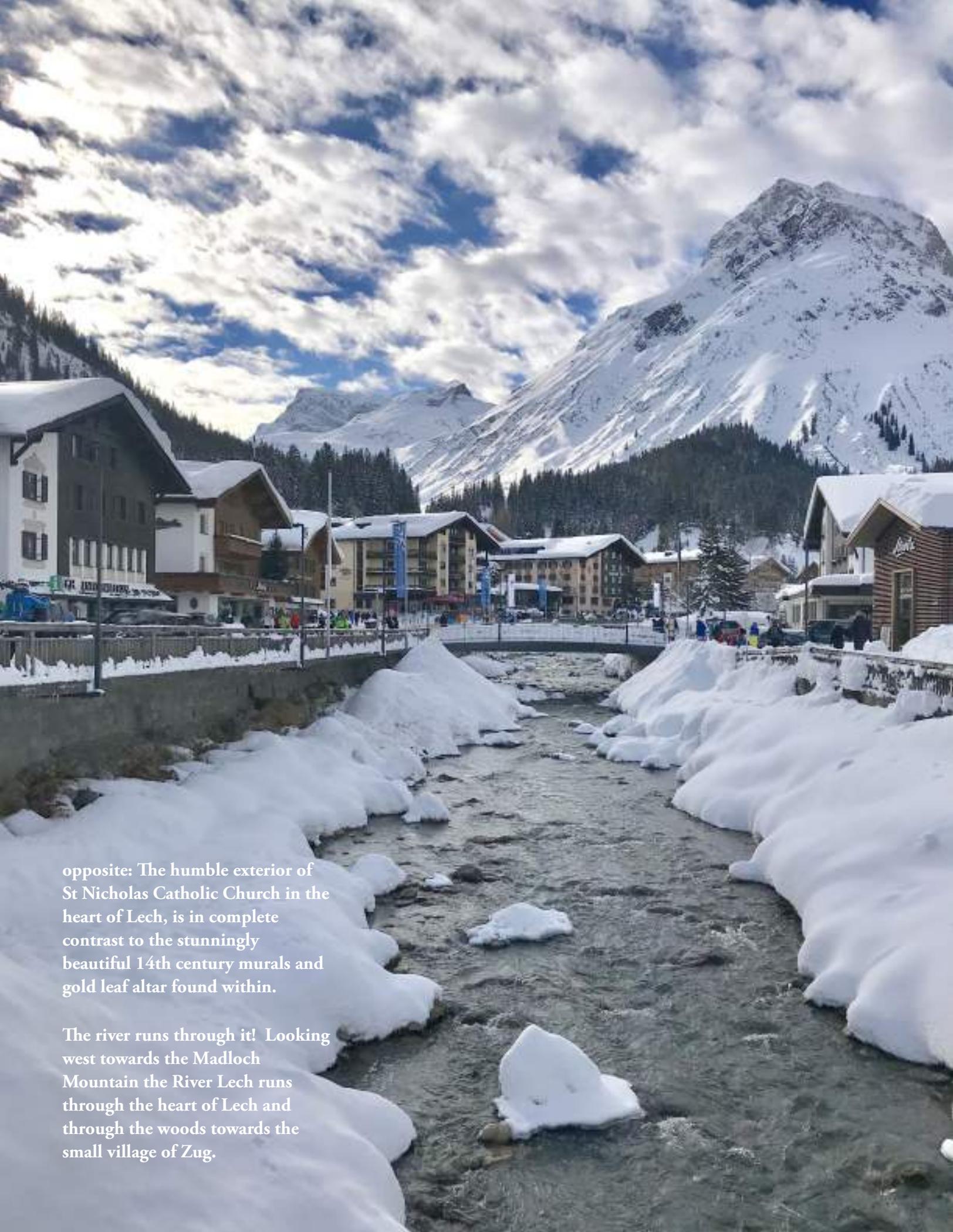
One of Princess Diana's favorite ski resorts, King Juan Carlos of Spain, and Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands are also regular visitors. With a blue-blooded guest list like this, Lech has still remained true to its farming village origins and the 14th

century St. Nicholas Church is a timely reminder of its heritage.

Today Lech has grown into a sophisticated ski resort which the jet set enjoy for its whispering chalets and many family-run chalet businesses. Having shared its ski area with the smaller villages of Zug and Züers, the new Auenfeldjet gondola built in 2013 now links the Lech side of the Arlberg to the St. Anton side, providing over 340 km of marked slopes and some of the finest skiing in the alps.



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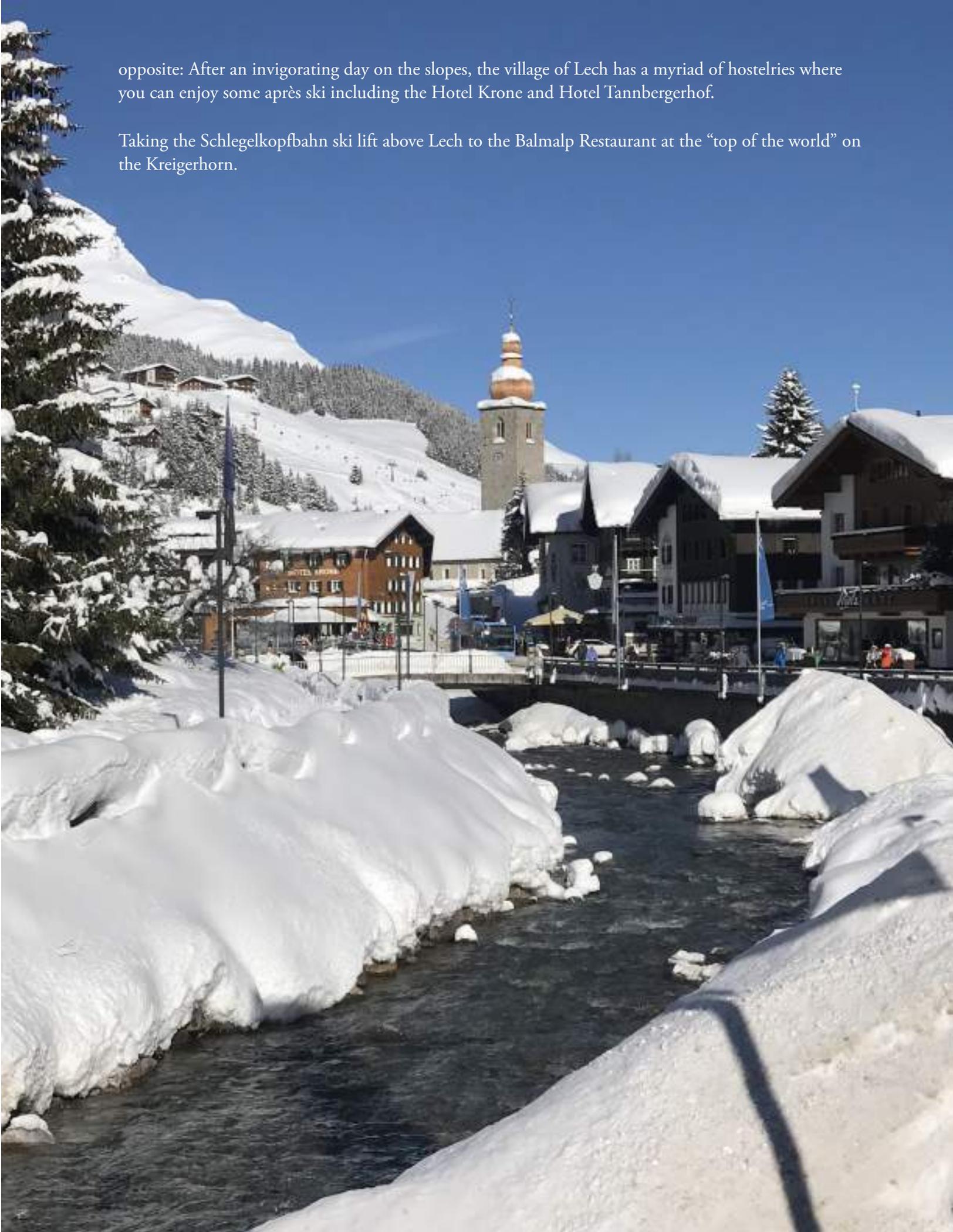


opposite: The humble exterior of St Nicholas Catholic Church in the heart of Lech, is in complete contrast to the stunningly beautiful 14th century murals and gold leaf altar found within.

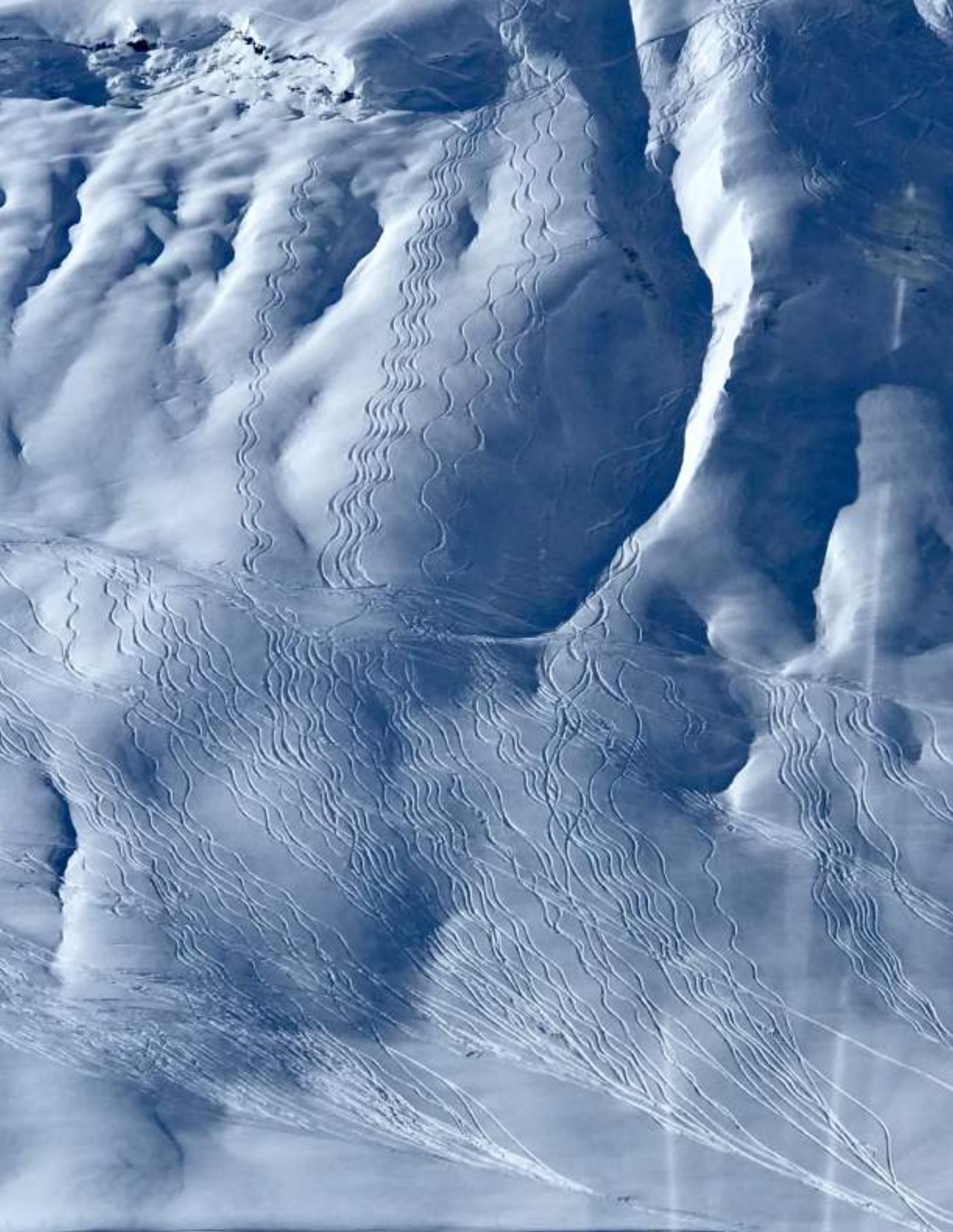
The river runs through it! Looking west towards the Madloch Mountain the River Lech runs through the heart of Lech and through the woods towards the small village of Zug.

opposite: After an invigorating day on the slopes, the village of Lech has a myriad of hostelrys where you can enjoy some après ski including the Hotel Krone and Hotel Tannbergerhof.

Taking the Schlegelkopfbahn ski lift above Lech to the Balmalp Restaurant at the “top of the world” on the Kreigerhorn.







opposite: Man-made patterns in nature and the stunning view from the Auenfeldjet gondola between the pretty villages of Zurs and St. Christoph am Arlberg.

A heavenly valley of fresh powder and sunshine high above on the Auenfeldjet gondola between the villages of Zurs and St. Christoph am Arlberg.





The quiet walk through the woods along the River Lech brings you to the village of Zug, where family-run Gasthofs serve delicious Kirsch cheese fondue and homemade schnitzel.

Ort Zug  
Gemeinde Lech  
Bezirk Oberlech L. Norderberg

opposite: No trip to Oberlech is complete without some après ski at the Burg Hotel, located at the foot of the Petersboden slope, and where the crowds gather in the glorious sunshine all day long enjoying the glühwein and weiss beer.

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opposite: Sophistication welcomes the visitor to Mr. Lagerfeld's home on the French Riviera. As a true creative, he expressed himself through many different mediums. "We need houses as we need clothes, architecture stimulates fashion. It's like hunger and thirst — you need them both."

## *Karl Lagerfeld Villa La Vigie The Mansion To Evoke A Style Revolution*

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA  
ROME / TORONTO

It certainly doesn't get more opulent than the essence of Karl Lagerfeld, head designer of Chanel since 1982 until his death earlier this year. Karl basked in style practically his entire life and we see his sense of refined elegance throughout his Monaco home.

Built by media mogul Sir William Ingram in 1902, Villa La Vigie is the epitome of a white castle nestled among blue waters and blue skies along the French Riviera of the Mediterranean Coast, overlooking both Roquebrune Cap Martin Bay and the Principality of Monaco.

Villa La Vigie has a colorful history, with its convenient

location, and it became an observation post when occupied by German Forces during the war, when the grounds were covered with minefields and barbed wire. Restoration of this beautiful estate took place in the 1950s, reinvigorating the beauty of this charming and opulent paradise.

As you drive up the private road, which is surrounded by wooded parks, you get the sense of the home when it was filled with exotic birds and other unusual animals.

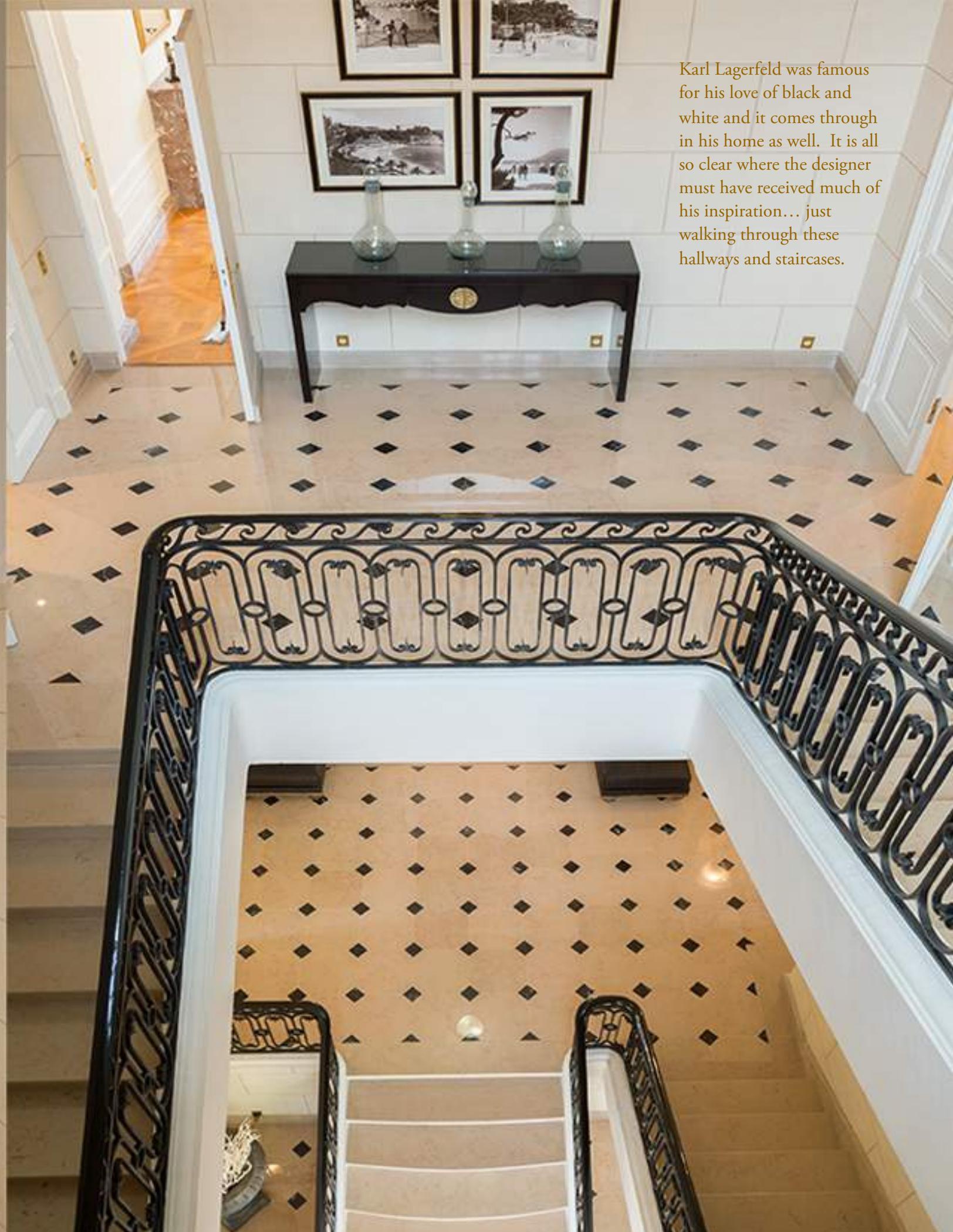
Built on a total of three floors, presenting an unforgettable entrance hallway and strikingly graphic staircase, all six bedrooms have their very own

view of the sea, with either adjoining or shared bathrooms. Luxury is found in the refined marble columns, high ceilings, and fireplaces. The 711 sq. ft. terrace boasts a luxurious jacuzzi that overlooks the sea.

Karl is a known lover of books and has collected well over 300,000, most of them housed in the property library. A billiards room stands close by.

The location is just minutes to Monaco and Italy, an hour to Cannes and two hours to Saint-Tropez.





Karl Lagerfeld was famous for his love of black and white and it comes through in his home as well. It is all so clear where the designer must have received much of his inspiration... just walking through these hallways and staircases.



Classical Tuscan columns holding up immaculately curved arches of perfected architecture wrap around the balcony and deliver a view of the French Riviera.







Variations of white and ivory set the tone of the marble floors and inlays in this bright and spacious washroom, with double French doors to flood the room with a fresh breeze.



opposite: The setting of this patio is picture perfect with the contrasting elements of a stoic ivory building against the backdrop of a perfect blue sky. “I’m very down to Earth, I’m just not from this Earth.”

“I love classic beauty. It’s an idea of beauty with no standard.” Well, standards are very high in these perfectly manicured landscapes amid a towering three floors of French Colonial elegance.



“People who do a job that claims to be creative have to be alone to recharge their batteries. You can’t live 24 hours a day in the spotlight and remain creative. For people like me, solitude is a victory.”  
Karl Lagerfeld







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## *Expanding Innovation Space For the Child Making New Things Happen*

BY KELECHI ELEANYA  
THE NIGER DELTA – NIGERIA

In making innovation happen, different strategies have been adopted in several scenarios and these have certainly led to specific positive changes. To create more enriching life experiences for children, innovation spaces could be pivotal in bringing about dramatic turnarounds in different fields of endeavor for the next generation of leaders. The key is that new-innovation labs inspire kids to think big. Thinking big is the major magic for change, change that redirects opportunities and procedures.

A worthy example of such initiatives is the Tech for Global Good Innovation Labs, which provides a deep learning opportunity for students on field trips and drop-in participants on weekdays. Creating a new-innovation leadership is the next major stop

for the next generation. Taking the lead in reshaping and reengineering the future is very vital if we must address several multiple global challenges. We need spaces for young people to create and re-create things and challenge the existing status quo. These kinds of spaces create equal opportunity for all kids to build, grow and display talent.

At the Tech for Good Innovation Labs, students collaboratively design an inclusive playground for students who may not be able to physically join in all situations. Here, Lab participants first draft their concepts on a paper Panoform grid, then snap a picture of the grid with a phone and use an app to convert this 2D image into a virtual reality environment. Students use VR goggles to look around their

virtual playground, which helps them see their designs more fully as they iterate new versions. All these get students thinking about how they can change things around them to be more inclusive.

We can create all of the best curricula and formulate authentic situations, but how much easier would it be if learning could happen inside of spaces that were specifically designed to see education differently?

Every child deserves the opportunity to explore how things work in an environment that supports that kind of learning – the focus should be on helping students to see education differently.

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## *Investing In Shares Of Luxury Companies A Different Set Of Considerations Than Investing In Their Offerings*

BY AL EMID  
TORONTO – CANADA

Investing in luxury items – sometimes termed “alternative investments” – has long been an acceptable means of diversifying an investment portfolio while demonstrating one’s wealth, status and exquisite taste. The category includes items such as art, wine, cars, and jewelry, and can even include rare stamps and coins.

However, while these possessions make for solid investments, shares in the companies selling them are not as promising, according to Gavin Graham, London-based investment analyst and media commentator. “This is probably not the best time {to buy shares in these companies},” he says. “The reason I say this is that they are already very expensive.”

Mr. Graham explains that {at time of writing} shares in

LVMH Moet Hennessy SE, often known as Louis Vuitton, Kering SA, Yves St. Laurent SAS, and Tiffany & Co., typically trade at 25 times earnings, a high valuation, meaning that serious growth in share prices is unlikely within the foreseeable future.

The stock market pullback last fall provided a potentially profitable window, as luxury stocks plummeted along with other equities. Those who invested at that time have probably seen share appreciation with the rebound since then.

Still, for those who would like to own shares in these corporations, some have unique qualities while others come with cautions. In the unique quality category, Tiffany & Co. shares enjoy what investment analysts Morningstar Inc. call a “wide

moat rating”. In medieval times, a wide moat prevented attack from hostile forces. In investing it means that a company’s positive attributes provide some protection from competition. Tiffany’s moat consists of its instantly recognizable name and iconic collections.

Porsche falls into a cautionary category. It is no longer a pure play since it merged its auto business with Volkswagen and is now a holding company. It owns 31.5% of Volkswagen and 50.7% of the votes, leaving it exposed to continued fallout from Volkswagen’s emissions scandal. Moreover, with auto sales under pressure, earnings will likely decline moderately over the next 18 months, making the share price vulnerable, Graham explains.

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## *On The Great Ocean Road*

BY JAMES T. RUTKA, MD  
TORONTO – CANADA

On a biennial basis for the past decade I have traveled to Melbourne, Australia to participate in a medical conference entitled, “Controversies in Neurosurgery”. As the journey to Melbourne from Toronto is quite long, I have typically taken a few extra days to explore the sites around this great city “down under”. On my last visit to Australia in November 2019 I decided to travel “The Great Ocean Road” from Adelaide to Melbourne with one of my former neurosurgery fellows who now lives and works in Adelaide.

The Great Ocean Road was built just after World War I by returned Australian veterans. The road courses along the coast of Victoria facing the Southern Ocean. The vistas along the way are as staggering as the scenery is spectacular. The first day we

drove from Adelaide to Port Fairy, a beautiful and historic coastal town. We stayed in a lovely bed and breakfast inn, the “Drift House”, where we spent the night. The next day I went for an early morning run, and stumbled upon a beautiful beach. Although it was late spring, I just had to go for a swim in the Southern Ocean, where the water temperature was a refreshing 16 degrees Celsius!

From Port Fairy we drove to Childers Cove, which was recommended by the staff at the “Drift House”, and enjoyed the rugged landscape of the majestic limestone stacks being pounded by the powerful surf of the ocean. From here we drove to the official section of the Great Ocean Road, where we spent time at the famed tourist sites, all in a row, including the Bay of Islands, the Grotto, the Arch,

and the Razorback. But my favorite was our visit to the Twelve Apostles National Park. The Twelve Apostles is a collection of massive limestone pillars that stand apart from the neighboring shore, and are formed by water erosion. Sadly, there are only eight of the original Twelve Apostles still standing. The ninth “Apostle” collapsed in 2005, and the others are at risk of doing the same.

From the Twelve Apostles we drove from Lorne to Torquay, then on to Melbourne to participate in the neurosurgery conference at the University of Melbourne. Seeing the Great Ocean Road was a reminder to take the time to visit these national monuments and scenic sites whenever I travel to far away places on business.



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## *Climate Change – Play Your Part*

BY CARLA DRAGNEA  
BUCHAREST – ROMANIA

A healthy planet and stable climate aren't political issues. It's all about families, communities, energy systems and humanity's future. It's important to get everyone on board, working toward climate solutions.

Here are some ways you can help fight climate change:

Green your commute – The many ways to reduce your transportation emissions will also make you healthier, happier and save you a few bucks. Whenever you can, take public transit, ride a bike, carpool, work from home or switch to an electric car. This is an area for my family where we could do better.

Use energy wisely and save some money during the process too! The changes you can make add up: change to energy-efficient

light bulbs, unplug computers, TVs and other electronics when you are not using them, wash clothes in cold or warm (not hot) water, install a programmable thermostat, use energy-efficient appliances and hang to dry when you can. You can also winterize your home to prevent heat from escaping and you could get a home energy audit to identify where you can make the most energy-saving gains. Happy to report that we do/have done all of these things.

Eat for a climate-stable planet – We hear many times the saying “from farm to table”. This means buy organic and local whenever possible. Other simple changes you can make to your diet to reduce its climate impact is to eat meat-free meals frequently, eliminate food waste and grow your own food. Also start giving insects a try! I know, it may not sound

appealing, but keep an open mind. On a recent trip, our family tried cricket tacos and to our surprise we liked them.

Consume less, waste less and enjoy life more! Focusing on life's simple pleasures – spending time in nature, being with loved ones and/or making a difference to others – provides more purpose, belonging and happiness than buying and consuming. Sharing, making, fixing, upcycling, repurposing and composting are all good places to start.

People are more often influenced by friends than by experts, so make sure to talk about climate change with your friends and family. Tell them your stories and encourage them to explore ways to help fight climate change!



## *Where/Which Is The...*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

World's coldest place?  
East Antarctic Plateau

Which country consumes the  
most caffeine in the world?  
Sweden

World's most populated city?  
Shanghai

Which country drinks the most  
alcohol?  
Belarus

World's wealthiest city?  
Tokyo

Most expensive city to live in?  
Singapore

Which country is the most  
bicycle friendly in the world?  
Netherlands

Least expensive city to live in?  
Mumbai

World's most energy efficient  
city?  
Reykjavik

World's oldest city?  
Damascus

Which country has the longest  
life expectancy in the world?  
Monaco

World's most visited city?  
London

World's least popular country?  
Iran

Which city has the highest  
average IQ?  
Hong Kong

World's most dangerous city to  
live in?  
San Pedro, Honduras

Which city is the world's most  
well-connected for Internet use?  
Seoul



*In this time of transformation, how can we come together to tap into collective wisdom and avoid collective folly?*

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**~ ONLINE ~**

*with Alan Briskin & Amy Lenzo*

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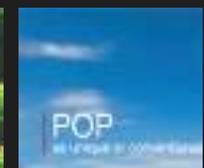
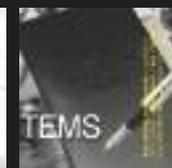


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# That's MY #LExEffect

"Creating visual impressions is my passion.  
Now I get to share my message with the world."

- Carmen Bachez: Photographer, Videographer, LEx Member



Leaders Expedition.

connect. empower. mobilize. transform



## I'm Carmen Bachez. This is MY #LExEffect.

I started in photography because creating images was the best way I knew how to share a *piece of me*. Sharing my photos for the first time on social media was the scariest thing. It was the first time I put myself out there. The first time I opened myself to criticism or scrutiny.

What I soon would learn, was that I'd be joining a community. A community that supported my work and my opinions, reinforcing new confidence in me. The more photos I shared, the more people I met. The more people I met, the more eyes to have exposure to my work. I was soon able to build a business centered around what drives me and keeps me up at night. Making an impact through visual media. Being a member of LEx. I now have a stage to share my message with the world, and I know I can help others do the same. That's my Leaders Expedition. That's MY **#LExEffect**.  
What's yours?

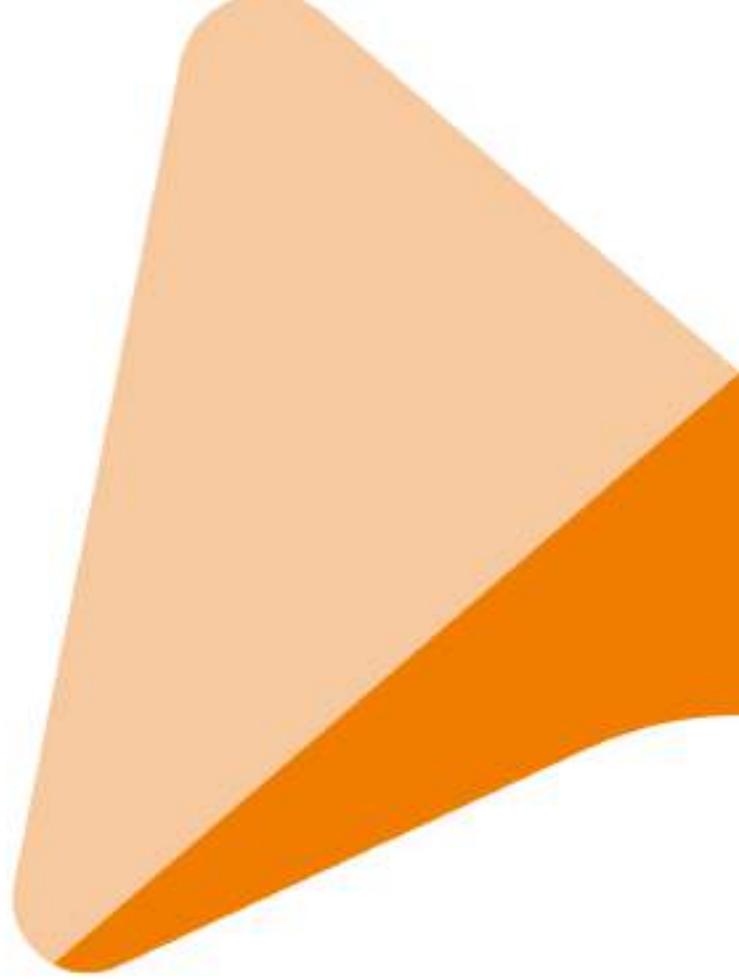
### Leaders Expedition

Leaders Expedition (LEx) provides current and future leaders who want to impact global change, with the supportive peer community, the tools, and the framework to do so. Members of our diverse community, engage with and mobilize LEx Local and GlobalCircles. They also use LEx Mentoring Programs, the LEx Marketplace and the LEx Career Exchange to build a supportive, results-oriented community committed to driving transformative, positive changes in the culture of leadership. We are one global community and this is..

**"Ours to make a better world."**

Our Moonshot Goal? To have one million LEx members in positions of influence, power and impact by 2029: from classrooms, to boardrooms to legislatures.

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT [www.leadersx.org](http://www.leadersx.org)**



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The Claude I. Taylor O.C. Tribute Award has been created by renowned crystal artist and designer, Mark Raynes Roberts, whose sculptures and awards can be found in art collections around the world.

The elegantly designed Crystal Sculpture Award is made of the purest optical crystal, a material used in the space and aeronautical industry, and reflective of the vision, clarity of thinking and excellence each of the Claude I. Taylor O.C. Tribute Award recipients possess. The Crystal Orb Sculpture is hand-engraved with a globe and linear lines on the cube symbolic of communication and the technological world we live in today.

[Markraynesroberts.com](http://Markraynesroberts.com)

## *The Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award*

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Claude I. Taylor, O.C., the renowned Air Canada Icon had a dream of acknowledging people who embraced a need. He had a deep appreciation and a considerable admiration for his recipients and their philanthropic works that spanned the essence of his dream.

With profound pride, in this, our World Luxury Issue 2019, it

is JO LEE Magazine's Distinct privilege to announce Claude Taylor's Honored Recipients. Jason Chipman Howlett, Dr. Margaret R. O'Keeffe Umanzio and John Wildman.

Claude Taylor's belief in goodness was all encompassing. To say he was a "White Knight", as he was referred to by international colleagues,

humbled him. But he was a "White Knight" and in their own right, so too are Jason Chipman Howlett, Dr. Margaret R. O'Keeffe Umanzio and John Wildman!

"Foresight requires a curiosity as deep as it is boundless... The will to dream bigger and beyond."

Claude I. Taylor, O.C.



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## *The Claude J. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award Jason Chipman Howlett*

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Jason is a Humanist  
and Executive VP Creative  
for JO LEE Magazine.

Jason's lifetime stance  
emphasizes the value of human  
beings, he shows his  
compassion through the eyes of  
a master. Jason is a creative  
design implementer  
extraordinaire, a realist, and an  
enthusiast, addicted to "the art  
of work". Claude admired the  
tenacity of the young and came  
to know Jason well, applauding  
the immensity of his  
growth over several years.

Jason's hobbies? Appreciating  
the artistry within the  
imagination of toys.



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## *The Claude J. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award Dr. Margaret R. O'Keefe Umanzio*

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Peggy has been an advisor to CEOs and corporate executive teams on leadership, strategy, organizational change. She was a cofounder of the first fully integrated alternative public school in the U.S., has lectured at Tufts University, University of California at Berkeley, and Boston University. Based on her leadership research and her creation of the authentic leadership concept (the balance of power and compassion), Peggy created a seven-day residential program on women and leadership which was held at Stanford University. Women at the top of their corporations were sponsored to attend.

Peggy is currently writing a book titled "An Irish Story: 7 Days".



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## *The Claude J. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award* *John A. Wildman*

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John, a business leader extraordinaire, turned entrepreneur with a strong interest in philanthropy, has held top executive positions with major international business enterprises, including a national not-for-profit Conservation agency. As CEO and Director of H.J. Heinz's leading Fitness and Health Organization, John donated support and training facilities for Canada's Olympic athletes.

Through his Foundation, John supports the hard work and scholastic achievements of some of our brightest young minds pursuing both undergraduate and graduate studies. Students, he believes, have the potential to change society for the better.

A favorite saying: "The purpose of life is a life of purpose."

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# JO LEE MAGAZINE

*180 Degrees from Ordinary*

## — 19th Anniversary —

### **Celebrating 19 Years**

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Everything you want to know about power, the world of business and politics, travel, corporate governance, the best of photography, the rich and the famous, health, humor and entertaining articles – all choreographed in lavishly, illustrated publications.

The phenomenon with JO LEE and its world of intellectual power, is matched not only by the magnetic attraction of its photo-driven issues but it boasts the privilege of being the only magazine with a social media end bringing you quick, outstanding reads with breaking news as it happens. A first. Again.

Prominent columnists and feature writers worldwide are continually alerted to embrace the coverage of the major developments and triumphs we feel the world would want to experience via great journalism.

There's a fascinating twist to JO LEE and it is this all-encompassing dichotomy driving its success. All advertising revenue {no salaries} is placed into The ADESTE Academy – for the advancement of higher education for African Students. The Unsung Heroes – experiencing undreamed of possibilities.

The publication takes you on a ride boasting a 40+ million global digitized readership.

In short, JO LEE stands for "180 degrees from ordinary".

The encore? The brainchild of JO LEE is founder and publisher: Josephina Lea Mascioli-Mansell: known to all as - Jo Lee.

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