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EXTRA INSIDE
Community news

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008

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BEACH HOUSE 2008

Flip-Flop Living



At a beach house in Water Mill, N.Y., a meal on the deck (right outside the kitchen), under the shade of a striped umbrella, comes with a killer view and an ocean breeze.

BY CARTER BERG FROM "MARY EMMERLING'S BEACH COTTAGES"

Mary Emmerling's Country Style Gets a Sun-and-Surf Spin

By JURA KONCIUS
Washington Post Staff Writer

Beyond fond memories of Thrasher's fries and drug-store vanilla cokes, Mary Ellisor Emmerling's recollections of childhood summers in 1950s Rehoboth are of simple beach cottages filled with straw mats, wicker chairs and painted tables.

Something about that snug and unpretentious way of life helped launch Emmerling on a decades-long search for the many faces of down-home American regional style. For 22 books that have sold more than a million copies, the magazine editor, designer and style setter has traveled the country chronicling and championing charm on a small scale. Her first book, "American Country" (1980), appeared three years before Ralph Lauren's first home collection and nine years before Rachel Ashwell made shabby so chic. Emmerling's laid-back blend of twig furniture, camp

blankets, weather vanes, jelly cupboards and anything with an American flag on it has had an enduring influence on readers' dreams of cottages, urban lofts and suburban bungalows. "We made country comfortable," Emmerling says.

Her latest book, "Mary Emmerling's Beach Cottages" (Clarkson Potter, \$32.50), is a glossy coffee-table book shrunk to beach-bag size. Extolling the carefree pleasures of coastal living, it was written by someone whose hair is always sun-bleached and who always keeps a bathing suit stashed in her car.

"There is something you remember about the beach from your childhood, your honeymoon or some fabulous vacation. It's a look associated with good memories," says Emmerling, 65, who has

See EMMERLING, Page 4



By the Sea

You don't need a beach house to have beach-house style. See our take on Mary Emmerling's key ingredients for giving any home "an instant dose of sunshine."

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BY JULIA EWAN — THE WASHINGTON POST

ADRIAN HIGGINS

Gardening

A Plot That Tells One Man's Story

Tony Dove shows me a 1967 aerial photograph of his family home, a rambler on four acres in Harwood in Anne Arundel County. "It was a Monday," he says, pointing out the sheets blowing on the clothesline. "My mom always did the laundry on a Monday."

Looking at the grainy, black-and-white picture, I can just make out rows of baby conifers, which Dove planted before he left for college to study horticulture.

Today, the pines are more than 50 feet tall and shelter enormous rhododendrons. Dove, 60, has seen many spring seasons here since he came to the property in 1959. Certainly, as far as the rhododendrons and closely related azaleas are concerned, this is the best spring he can remember. He ascribes this not to the cool, moist and measured season we have had this year but, amazingly, to last year's killer drought.

Late last summer, he would water every 10 to 14 days, drawing from an aquifer so deep and large that it reaches to Long Island. He gave the rhododendrons enough water to survive, but they did not receive the surfeit of moisture that, in a wetter year, pushes leaf growth at the expense of flower-bud development.

In addition, the dryness banished a common



After the drought, azaleas and rhododendrons are ablaze in Tony Dove's garden in Harwood.

flower disease called petal blight, and the cloudless skies of 2007 allowed the plants to build more sugars than usual.

By late summer, Dove was seeing an astonishing amount of flower-bud set, and he

See DOVE, Page 6

Online



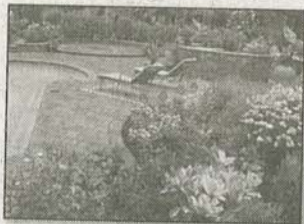
At Glover Park, spring is in full swing with deliveries of straw mulch and an annual picnic.

In the next episode of Community Plotlines, our series on the Glover Park Community Garden in Northwest Washington, Mark goes on a spree, Todd and Lissie need to replant and Lisa bails. Dino does sweet potatoes.

Watch the video at www.washingtonpost.com/communityplotlines.

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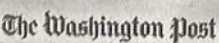
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Home Front

Edited by LIZ SEYMOUR



YVES DELORME

Yves Delorme offers luxury bedding and linens, above. Janus et Cie's line includes spa chaises, below.

New Shops on the Block for Cady's Alley

The roster of retailers at posh Cady's Alley in Georgetown is about to change again.

This summer, luxury French linen purveyor Yves Delorme is setting up in the alley across from Leopold's Cafe & Konditorei. Known for sumptuous bed, bath and table linens in distinctive florals as well as bold colors, the company already has several retail shops in the Washington area. (It sells designer Pierre Frey's collections.)

In August, Janus et Cie, a 30-year-old Los Ange-

les firm, plans to open in the former Random Harvest Studio space on M Street NW. Janus et Cie is known for high-end outdoor furniture, including garden umbrellas and benches. The showrooms are also filled with casual tables and chairs, fabrics, rugs and lighting. "We felt Cady's Alley was the place to be from a retail and design perspective in Washington," said Janus et Cie spokeswoman Wendy Rhiger.

Turbulent economic conditions have contributed to the recent turnover of several shops in the block of upscale design boutiques, said Anthony Lanier, the developer of Cady's Alley. But Lanier said he is in talks with Shabby Chic, Rachel Ashwell's iconic California chain of faded slipcovers and cottage style, to open directly across the street.

Not too shabby.

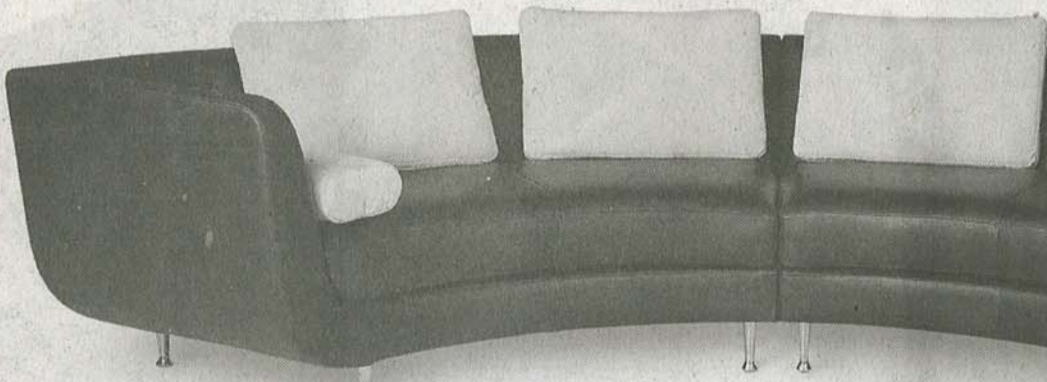
Jura Koncius



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ONLINE



BY JAMES M. THRESHER — THE WASHINGTON POST

Home staffer Liz Seymour, left, cleans out her attic with the help of professional organizer Caitlin Shear. Follow the progress by clicking on Liz's online diary at www.washingtonpost.com/organize. This week: Getting Started.

MORE HELP FROM HOME

Home Front: Join us today and every Thursday at 11 a.m. to chat with Jura Koncius and Annie Groer about making the most of your space. **The Garden Plot:** Join Adrian Higgins at 11 a.m. Tuesdays. [washingtonpost.com/liveonline](http://www.washingtonpost.com/liveonline)

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HOME

Editor: Belle Elving
Deputy Editor: Liz Seymour
Art Director: JoEllen Murphy

Staff Writers: Annie Groer, Jura Koncius, Terri Sapienza
Gardening Columnist: Adrian Higgins

Editorial Assistant: Kathleen Hom
TO CONTACT US

E-mail: home@washpost.com

Telephone: 202-334-4409

Home Section, The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20071

Advertising Information: 202-334-7632