

Weave all about it!

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

Savina and John Rodrigues are big fans of *The Independent & Free Press*.

But it's not the newspaper's content the Georgetown couple is excited about—it's the paper it's printed on.

The Rodrigues' weave baskets from the newspaper's pages. They've tried their craft with some other newspapers, but have found *The IFP* just works better.

"*The Independent* is the best one because of the thickness of the paper," said Savina.

The couple learned the art of newspaper basket weaving from John's cousin when they visited Portugal in December and have been busy weaving baskets since returning home.

They cut the newspaper's pages into three strips, roll them on an angle, secure the strip with a little glue then weave the strips into baskets. When the baskets are done they varnish them for durability, which also ensures no ink comes off on items placed in them.

Savina, who works part-time, says the newspaper basket weaving is a hobby and they can work away on the baskets while they're watching television. John estimates it takes a couple minutes to roll a strip.

But weaving those strips into baskets takes a little longer.

The first one they made is relatively large, with a lid, and that took several days.



John and Savina Rodrigues display their sturdy baskets woven from the pages of *The Independent & Free Press*.

Photo by Ted Brown

But the more they make, the faster they are becoming.

The last basket Savina wove with handles, took about three hours to make.

They use their newspapers, and living in a townhouse development, they find some other papers nearby at the curb on recycling day.

"We're using the newspaper instead of recycling it," said Savina.

She hopes to sell her baskets eventually. Anyone interested in purchasing one can reach the Rodrigues' at 905-702-8454.

Concrete thrown through window

Two people were seen throwing a large piece of concrete through the back window of a vehicle parked at a Stewart MacLaren Rd. residence about 1:40 a.m. Sunday.

The window was smashed and the suspects were last seen running southbound on Beverly Lane. Police did not have a description of the suspects.

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The front door of the Remington

Homes sales office on Ten Sideroad was forced open about 3 a.m. Sunday setting off an alarm.

Police report it's unknown if anything was taken.

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Some wires were cut inside a vehicle parked at a Wildwood Rd. home sometime late Thursday or early Friday. The oil dipstick was also missing.

Damage is estimated at about \$200.

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