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Photo by Guido Apicella

Author Philip Smith

MEDIA

HE SEES DEAD PEOPLE

Adolescence is angst-ridden at best, but imagine

growing up with a psychic parent — one who knows your every thought, almost before you do. Such was life for South Florida author Philip Smith, who in his book, *Walking Through Walls: A Memoir* (Atria Books), chronicles a childhood raised by a clairvoyant father. In this poignant, coming-of-age tale, which critics have described as “*Running With Scissors* meets *Bewitched*,” Smith tells the story of his late father, Lew Smith, who by day worked as a chi-chi interior designer for celebrities (a mobster or two), and by night did his “real work” as a psychic. Smith, an artist and former for *GQ* magazine, tells of a life where séances, talking spirits, exorcisms and hands-on he monplace, and where in his teens he sought escape through sex, surfing and even Scientology spirits who tended to behave like nagging relatives.” Today, Smith warmly embraces his father a childhood growing up in a home more reminiscent of *The Addams Family* than *Father Kn*



STATS

SCHOOL DAZE

In the spirit of rubbing salt in an open wound, here's proof that as the economy wanes, college tuitions rise. The following are cost averages at four-year universities.



SOURCE: SUN-SENTINEL

HEALTH

LIKE A HAIRY TALE

You may have noticed Boca Raton's Dr. Marta Rendon in *People*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Elle* and other magazines. Since being named the global celebrity dermatologist for P&G Beauty's Head & Shoulders marketing campaign, the ubiquitous founder and medical director of the Dermatology & Aesthetic Center has been front and center

in the shampoo's fight against flakes. The campaign, “Respect the Scalp, Love the Hair,” has been utilizing Rendon's expertise and clinical research training to help educate consumers on the merits of a well-nourished noggin.



Dr. Marta Rendon



Caren S. Nelle, director of the South Florida Storytelling Project at a VOX event

DIVERSION

THIN OUT THE

If you've got a juicy tale to tell, VOX story-telling

provide a captive audience. VOX, which in Latin stands for vox, of the people”), has been taking the spoken-word scene by monthly events, produced by Florida Atlantic University's School of Communication and Multimedia Studies and School of the Arts. The school's platform for non-professional speakers who've got something to say; they're modeled after MOTH, the New York story-telling venue. “Everybody loves a good story,” says the school's director. “But equally important, it makes the point that everybody's story is valuable, that in a democracy, every voice matters. How it works: Participants get five minutes to share their stories to win cash or other prizes. Tips for talkers: Stick to the time limit, keep it interesting (R-rated stories are OK, but keep them tasteful), don't ramble, and, lastly, make sure your story is a story — it needs to have a beginning, middle and end. For details, call 561-297-0042 or e-mail cneile@